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PLO DELEGATES TO HAVANA NONALINED SUMMIT NAMED

JN221650 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 22 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that the PLO Executive Committee has formed its delegation to the nonalined foreign ministers' conference, which is due to begin in Havana on 28 August. It has been learned that chief of the PLO Political Department, brother Abu al-Lutf, will head the Palestinian delegation that will also include brothers 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, Yasir 'Abd Rabbu and Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani, PLO Executive Committee members, as well as brothers Shafiq al-Hut, Zuhdi at-Tarazi, 'Isam Kamil and Na'im Khadr.

'ARAFAT MEETS WITH SOVIET NEWS AGENCY DELEGATION

JN230837 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 23 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Yesterday, brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] received an APN delegation. The delegation offered heartfelt congratulations to the brother leader on his 50th birthday and presented him with a gold-bound book, containing the following:

Esteemed Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, allow us to extend our sincere congratulations on the occasion of your 50th birthday. Your long, brave struggle for the return of the Arab Palestinian people's legitimate rights enjoys the respect of all honest people in the world. We greatly appreciate your personal contribution, in your capacity as chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, to the Middle East peoples' struggle against imperialism, Zionism and their allies, in order to achieve a just and comprehensive peace and establish an independent sovereign Palestinian state.

The service of peace, the progress of humanity and the development of ties of amity and fraternal cooperation were and still remain APN's high ideals and main duties and we can positively say that these ideals have always and will continue to receive your confidence and support. You, personally, are contributing greatly to developing and bolstering Soviet-Palestinian relations and to consolidating the friendship between the Arab Palestinian people and the Soviet people.

On the occasion of your 50th birthday, allow us to wish you the best of health and further success in fulfilling your noble work for the Palestinian people's happiness and freedom, the achievement of a just peace in the Middle East and the bolstering of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union.

FARUQ QADDUMI MEETS FOR TALKS WITH CHEDLI KLIBI

LD221424 Tunis TAP in English 1347 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

["Pool" item]

[Text] Tunis, August 22 (TAP)--Faruq Qaddumi, chief of the PLO Political Department arrived Wednesday in Tunis. He stated that he will hold talks with Chedli Klibi, Arab League's general secretary, to set up an Arab unified strategy which will be adopted during the nonalined countries' summit, due to be held in Havana.

Besides, the chief of the PLO Political Department pointed out that the Security Council will meet soon to debate the Palestinian issue, stressing the necessity to unify the Arab stands and make the Palestinian people's cause triumph.

CHEDLI KLIBI INTERVIEWED ON ARAB LEAGUE'S POLICY

LD201524 Tunis TAP in English 1345 GMT 20 Aug 79 LD

["Pool" item]

[Text] Paris, Aug 20 (TAP)--In an interview with FRANCE-PAYS ARABES (Parisian review) Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi cast light on this organization's new options and stands namely following its transfer to Tunis. Concerning its action and structures, Chedli Klibi believes they must be thought over "for efficiency, conciseness and compactness come first," he insisted.

As for the League's action abroad, Chedli Klibi stressed again the necessity to reorganize communication with the public opinions in Europe, America and all countries including the ones known for their unconditional support to Israel, "for they have to be persuaded the Arab cause and particularly the Palestinian cause are legitimate," Chedli Klibi said in part.

Besides, while reaffirming the Palestinian people's right to a homeland, and self-determination, Chedli Klibi expressed hope that Egypt will return to the Arab League because he believes that the Egyptians "have been deceived and they will realize one day that all has been a misunderstanding, for a lasting peace cannot result from a misunderstanding or a conjuring trick," he added. Concerning the EEC-Arab League relations and the Euro-Arab dialog, the Arab League secretary general said that both sides' interests have to be injured, and that their relations have to be rounded on concertation and complementarity for both Europe and the Arab world agree upon a same ideologic platform (freedom, human rights, etc...) and in matters relating to interests [as received] the Arab countries are a considerable market for Europe's industrial output.

PALESTINIAN SOURCE RESPONDS TO STRAUSS STATEMENTS

JN230813 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1515 GMT 23 Aug 79 JN

[Excerpt] A responsible information source on the Palestinian revolution has stated the following: The statements made by Jimmy Carter's envoy to the Middle East, Robert Strauss, did not surprise us at all, since we were sure that the Carter administration, like the Nixon, Ford and other administrations before it, was pursuing a policy hostile to the Palestinian people and our Arab nation from the outset.

When we bided our time, following the uproar on UN Security Council Resolution 242 and the plans for its amendment, it was because we wanted to unveil the U.S. policy, which is always plotting against our people and our Arab nation. We also wanted to unveil the Carter administration's policy and expose the weakness of the U.S. political leadership, which has made contradictory statements in the past that show its deterioration and inability to adopt a stable policy.

Strauss' statements did not only dot the i's and affirm that which, in our opinion, did not require affirmation; they also exposed imperialism's and Israel's new ally: traitor Anwar as-Sadat. As-Sadat's refusal to amend UN Security Council Resolution 242, in accordance with his master Strauss' statements, undoubtedly affirms the Egyptian regime's involvement in and attachment to the Zionist-U.S. pact against the Arab nation, the Palestinian people and all the struggling African people.

KUWAIT

OIL MINISTER REJECTS 'WAR ZONE' IDEA; OPEC TO MEET

LD230950 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0730 GMT 23 Aug 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Kuwaiti Oil Minister 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah is quoted in a press statement as saying that Kuwait has decided not to insure its oil tankers in accordance with the new insurance policy imposed by Lloyds international insurance group following its decision to consider the Gulf region a war zone.

The minister told AL-QABAS that in view of this, Kuwait will not pay the new premiums which the London group had imposed earlier this month on tankers and ships passing through the Gulf on the ground that this region is exposed to war dangers.

Shaykh 'Ali described Western campaigns against the OPEC countries as "provocations" aimed at remedying domestic problems in the West. He said that these campaigns are always launched "for local consumption."

In another statement to the paper, he said that the Gulf states oil ministers will meet at an unnamed capital in the Gulf next month. He added that this meeting will be devoted to discussing a dialog between the Gulf states and the EEC and to studying the possibility of achieving cooperation and coordination between the two sides. He said this dialog will take place at the end of the year.

YAR

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES SENDING ENVOY TO CAIRO

JN212041 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 Aug 79 JN

[Excerpt] A responsible source at the YAR Foreign Ministry has denied reports by certain radios and foreign news agencies that Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, has sent his personal envoy or anyone else to the Arab Republic of Egypt. The responsible source reaffirmed the YAR's adherence to the resolutions of the Baghdad summit conference and the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference.

PRIME MINISTER'S RECOMMENDATIONS ON NEW UN RESOLUTION

NC221712 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Aug 79 NC

[Text] Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil has cabled urgent instructions to Egypt's permanent representative in New York, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid. The instructions are related to Egypt's position on the efforts to issue a new UN Security Council Resolution concerning the Palestinian peoples' rights. These instructions say that Egypt fully supports the issuance of a new UN Security Council resolution that would refer to Resolutions 242 and 338 and contribute to the establishment of an overall and just peace among all the parties in the area. The new resolution, however, must include the following basic points:

1. It should clearly indicate the Palestinian people's legitimate rights in exchange for recognition of Israel.

2. The new resolution must not lead to any change in the legal position of the agreements that were signed between certain countries in the area in implementation of the peace framework for the Middle East which was agreed upon at Camp David.

3. It must lead to a cessation of Israel's operations in southern Lebanon and the guerrilla operations against Israel.

AS-SADAT GREETS ARAB LEADERS ON 'ID AL-FITR

NC222018 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1933 GMT 22 Aug 79 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 22 August--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has sent cables of congratulations to Arab and Islamic kings and presidents on the occasion of 'Id al-Fitr wishing them good health and happiness and asking almighty God to grant His blessings to their peoples and glory, progress and prosperity to Islam and the Muslims and to embrace us with His assistance and support. Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent similar cables on this blessed occasion. President as-Sadat has received congratulatory cables on 'Id al-Fitr from the Arab and Islamic kings and presidents and from the Egyptian ambassadors and communities and Islamic organizations abroad.

President as-Sadat has received congratulatory cables on the blessed 'Id al-Fitr from Sa'd 'Abdallah as-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister; Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, sultan of Oman; the president of the Islamic Comoro Islands and the president of Maldives.

As-Sadat Arrives in Suez

NC221942 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 22 Aug 79 NC

[Text] This evening President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat arrived in Suez from Ismailia. He will meet with the political, popular and executive leaderships of the Suez governorate this evening. Upon his arrival in Suez, the president was welcomed by the governor of the Suez, Mr Ahmad Hilmi Badr; the secretary of the National Democratic Party and the political, executive and popular leaderships of Suez governorate.

The president made an inspection tour by helicopter in which he inspected the food security projects in the area extending from Ismailia governorate to Suez governorate.

PRESIDENT HUSAYN RECEIVES 'ARAFAT'S PERSONAL ENVOY

JN222105 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2055 GMT 22 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 22 August--This evening, President Saddam Husayn received Muhammad Abu Mayzar, personal envoy of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Abu Mayzar arrived here yesterday with a message to President Saddam Husayn from Yasir 'Arafat, related to the current Arab situation.

RCC FORMS COMMITTEE TO FOLLOW UP IMPLEMENTATION OF AMNESTY

JN221705 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Aug 79 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 22 August--It has been decided here to form a central committee to follow up the implementation of the RCC resolutions pertaining to the pardoning of prisoners, returning them to their jobs and providing work opportunities for those among them who are unemployed.

Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member, first deputy prime minister and committee chairman, issued a statement today in which he set 16 September as the deadline for accepting applications for employment or reemployment from those included in the amnesty and who are residing in Iraq, and 16 October as the deadline for those who are outside Iraq.

PRESIDENT HUSAYN RECEIVES CONGRATULATORY CABLE FROM CARTER

JN221220 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 21 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 21 August--President Saddam Husayn has received a congratulatory cable from U.S. President Jimmy Carter on the occasion of 'Id al-Fitr feast.

President Saddam Husayn has sent a thank you cable to the U.S. President.

DPRK FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ENDS VISIT

JN221004 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0955 GMT 22 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 22 August--Kil I-tong, under secretary of the DPRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs, left Baghdad today at the end of a 3-day visit to Iraq.

In a predeparture statement, the Korean official said that the visit was aimed at consolidating friendly relations between Iraq and the DPRK. He added that his talks dealt with coordination between the two countries during the sixth nonalined summit conference in Havana.

GREEK INDUSTRY MINISTER LEAVES FOLLOWING 4-DAY VISIT

JN221207 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1140 GMT 22 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 22 August--Greek Industry and Energy Minister Militiadhis Evert left Baghdad this morning for home, concluding his 4-day visit to Iraq. The Greek minister said that his visit has helped set the foundations and provide opportunities for joint cooperation in the commercial, industrial, educational and other fields.

IBRAHIM ON DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR NONALINED CONFERENCE

JN221322 Doha QNA in Arabic 1217 GMT 22 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 22 August--Jordanian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hasan Ibrahim has declared that his country has held contacts and consultations with the PLO, Syria, Iraq and other fraternal Arab states on unifying and coordinating the Arab stand at the nonalined conference, which is to be held in the Cuban capital of Havana next weekend.

Ibrahim told the QNA correspondent in Amman that an Arab draft resolution on the Middle East crisis will be a major item on the conference's agenda. He added that this draft resolution calls for Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, especially Arab Jerusalem, guaranteeing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, the suspension of all Israeli measures that are changing the Arab character of the occupied Arab territory, and the cessation of Israeli violations of international laws and UN resolutions.

Ibrahim said that this Arab draft resolution is based on the resolutions of the Arab summit and foreign ministers' conference in Baghdad and considers the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty as an unacceptable basis for the real and just peace sought by the Arabs. He emphasized that a new approach must be found to achieve the desired just peace that guarantees a just settlement of all aspects of the problem.

Ibrahim said that Arab foreign ministers will hold consultations in Cuba prior to the foreign ministers conference that begins on 29 August, which will discuss the agenda of the sixth summit conference scheduled to begin on 3 September. He said that the Arab delegations will hold talks with delegations participating in the conference in order to explain the Arab view on the Middle East crisis.

Ibrahim will lead a Jordanian delegation to the foreign ministers conference in Havana. He is scheduled to leave Amman for Cuba on Friday.

AR-RA'Y VIEWS U.S. EFFORTS TO APPEASE ISRAEL

JN210631 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 21 Aug 79 pp 1, 17 JN

[Editorial: "The White American Heart"]

[Text] Has the sacrifice that was made by the U.S. Government to bring success to President Carter's envoy to Tel Aviv been made in vain?

President Carter forfeited his right to defend the permanent U.S. representative at the United Nations, Andrew Young, who preferred to resign from the U.S. Government after having criticized its policy.

Although President Carter sought, by the statements which followed the resignation of his UN representative, to calm and mollify Israel and not to arouse its doubts about Washington's intention during the Security Council meeting on Thursday. The gist of the statements made by Strauss, in Israel in particular, clearly indicate the U.S. determination to veto any draft resolution whoever may submit it, if such a resolution refers to the rights of the Palestinian people.

Given such premeditated intentions, one of the officials of the U.S. government had to speak the word of truth. Andrew Young said it and paid the price by sacrificing his office at the altar of the Zionist lobby in the United States.

Young's resignation has opened the door wide for an open dialog between the PLO and black Americans, particularly with their leaders in civil institutions, Congress and the government.

It appears that President Carter's attempts to appease Jewish voters in the United States has produced negative results. President Carter has lost the principal electoral base which brought him to the White House represented by black Americans.

It may be difficult for President Carter to restore the electoral balance to American society, having lost his wager in the game of blacks and Jews in the United States, especially since one of the leaders of the civil rights movement--which Carter compared to the Palestinian people's tragedy--has ridiculed the American Government's Middle East policy from the Camp David accords to the self-rule talks.

We do not believe that Carter, who has begun to see his certain loss in the forthcoming elections looming on the horizon, can vindicate Andrew Young by confronting American society with the terrorism which Israel and the Zionist lobby have exercised and continue to exercise against the American Government and people and against the chances for peace in the Middle East. President Carter probably realizes, although it may be too late, that he made a mistake when he dragged As-Sadat to Camp David, believing that he could represent the Arab nation or stand in for the Palestinian people.

BUTRUS SENDS NOTE TO UN DELEGATE ON ISRAELI AGGRESSION

NC221602 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 22 Aug 79 NC

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus has sent a note to the Lebanese permanent UN delegation containing the details of the Israeli acts of aggression in some parts of the south during the past 2 days. Lebanon's delegation will convey the note to the Security Council as an official document.

The Voice of Lebanon reporter has learned that the note includes a request for the submission of a complaint against Israel by the acting chief delegate in New York. However, this does not mean that the Security Council will be asked to convene. The note contains the number of those killed or wounded and the types of weapons used in the aggression and the effect this will have on the task of the peace-keeping force in the south and the military escalation that might result from this.

AL-HUSS CRITICIZES U.S. SPOKESMAN'S REMARKS

NC222205 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 22 Aug 79 NC

[Text] Prime Minister al-Huss has commented on the alarming rate of Israeli escalation in south Lebanon and the statement by U.S. State Department spokesman Tom Reston. In his statement, Reston said that the United States hopes the Israeli raids on south Lebanon are not the beginning of a new round of violence in the area, adding that U.S. officials are watching the situation here and have no adequate information about the Israeli raids or whether the planes were manufactured in the U.S. Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss said:

The statement of the U.S. spokesman pains and astonishes us at the same time. Is the U.S. spokesman unaware that U.S. economic and military aid to Israel during the last 4 years from 1976 to 1979 amounted to $8.23 billion, which is an average of over $2 billion annually? Does the U.S. spokesman mean to say that his country, which offers so much economic and military aid to Israel annually, cannot do more than hope that the Israeli raids on south Lebanon are not the beginning of a new round of violence? Can't his country force Israel to stop its savage attacks? Which round of violence is the U.S. spokesman referring to, since the Israeli officials had previously declared their determination to wage an open war against the Palestinians? Their war has been directed against civilians and peaceful people, without differentiating between Lebanese and Palestinians, men and women or between elderly men and children. Their war has been directed against populated villages and towns resulting in tens of thousands of evacuees as well as hundreds of deaths and injuries.

Until the United States investigates whether the planes used by Israel were U.S.-manufactured and while Israeli military power is indiscriminately and mercilessly using destructive weapons against the populated areas daily, is the U.S. spokesman trying to convince us that the United States has no connection with such a military power despite the fact that Israel has been receiving U.S. military and economic aid? The U.S. spokesman is well aware of Lebanon's cause in south Lebanon--a cause on which UN Security Council resolutions have been passed while Israel attempts to foil implementation of these resolutions by force, using U.S. weapons. Ignoring this fact is tantamount to regarding the aggressor and the victim, the killer and the killed as equals.

MUFTI KHALID ATTACKS U.S. IN 'ID AL-FITR SERMON

NC230722 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 23 Aug 79 NC

[Excerpts] Lebanon today ushered in the first day of the blessed 'Id al-Fitr as the country continues to suffer from the pressure of its great tragedy.

The 'Id al-Fitr prayers were held at 0530 at Al-Imam al-Awja'i Mosque. The mufti of the republic, His Eminence Shaykh Hasan Khalid, led the prayers, which were also attended by Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and several ministers, deputies and Arab and Islamic ambassadors in Beirut.

In his sermon, His Eminence Shaykh Hasan Khalid emphasized that the Lebanese problem was not a problem between Muslims and Christians. Rather, solving the problem and achieving detente depended upon defining the attitudes toward the Israeli enemy.

Referring to the situation in the south, he condemned the policy of the big powers to keep local wars going--directly or indirectly--in the developing countries. He added: In actuality, Israel is the permanent U.S. means of exercising political and economic blackmail. The United States gives Israel funds, expertise, men and materiel. It maintains silence about Israel's daily aggression against southern Lebanon, accepts the killing of innocent people with U.S. arms and keeps quiet about the bombing of peaceful citizens with U.S. planes. It knows that we in Lebanon are weak, helpless people exhausted by the artificial local war and the painful years of destruction; that we, the Lebanese, are not the cause of the Palestine tragedy, which made the Palestinians take refuge in Lebanon and that this tragedy was caused by Israel alone, supported by the world's imperialist states since 1948.

The United States has now chosen to solve the Palestine tragedy with a similar Lebanese tragedy in order to protect the state of oppression and blackmail. When the conscience of the United States wakened in the person of its UN ambassador, Andrew Young, the arm of Zionism clamped down to silence this free ambassador and forced him to resign. The real tragedy of the Young affair lies in the U.S. acceptance of his resignation. In doing so, the United States has accepted the resignation of the U.S. conscience. The tragedy is the U.S. tragedy, not its ambassador's. Only history will expose the seriousness of this fact and its danger to the general U.S. policy. He also said: The only solution to the Palestinian tragedy and the tragedy of southern Lebanon does not lie in the international sedatives for southern Lebanon while Zionist aggression continues, but in recognition by the entire world, especially the United States, that the presence of Israel has led to the unjust displacement of the Palestinian people, and the recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to a state on their own land.

UN, ARMY FORCES CLASH WITH PALESTINIANS

NC221331 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 22 Aug 79 NC

[Text] A clash has taken place in Qana between elements of the UN Emergency Forces and the Lebanese Army on the one hand, and Palestinian armed elements which were trying to infiltrate into the UN's area of operations on the other. The infiltrating forces withdrew after this confrontation.

Further Details

TA221729 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 22 Aug 79 TA

[Text] This afternoon, the terrorists in south Lebanon fired at a UN barrier in Qana. Two Dutch soldiers were seriously wounded and evacuated to the Rambam hospital in Haifa. In the same incident, another Dutch soldier and some Fijian soldiers were also injured and treated at the UN hospital in An-Naqurah. The terrorists fired at the ambulances evacuating the soldiers. Our correspondent Alan Ben-'Ami reports that the terrorists took several UN soldiers prisoner but released them later. This evening, the terrorists fired Katyushas at the Christian villages in the eastern region of southern Lebanon.

ISRAELI SHELLING OF SOUTH CAUSES EXTENSIVE DAMAGE, DEATHS

NC221600 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Aug 79 NC

[Text] Using all types of heavy and destructive weapons today, Israel expanded the range of its aggression to include most areas in the south. The towns of An-Nabatiyah and Tyre and their suburbs were subjected to particularly violent Israeli shelling, which also included other areas in western Al-Biqa', causing extensive material damage.

This afternoon, the shelling of An-Nabatiyah area expanded to include the main road leading to the town and particularly Mahallat az-Ziftah and Al-Hijjah woods. Traffic between Az-Zahrani and An-Nabatiyah as well as that between Az-Zahrani and Tyre has been paralyzed.

In Tyre the artillery shelling extended to Al-Burghuliyah, Juwar an-Nakhl and Shibri. It has been reported that many wounded persons have been moved to the hospitals from the town of Habbush.

In a telephone dispatch this afternoon, the correspondent of the National News Agency reported that the artillery shelling, to which the city of Tyre was subjected at noon today, caused extensive damage to buildings and losses in lives. The building, housing the district commissioner's headquarters and the government-house police post, were hit and fire broke out in vehicles belonging to the Internal Security Force. It has been reported that the streets are empty of pedestrians but full of shrapnel and that the telephone lines have been disrupted. Some 36 artillery shells fell on the city this afternoon.

ISRAELI FORCES REPORTEDLY CONCENTRATING IN SOUTH

NC221830 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 22 Aug 79 NC

[Excerpts] The Israeli escalation of the military situation reached a climax today with continuous attacks from morning till evening.

According to an urgent dispatch from our reporter in the UNIFIL operations area, which was caught in the cross fire, the violent shelling of An-Nabatiyah was resumed at 1500 today, while columns of dense smoke billowed from the woods of Al-'Ayshiyah, Al-Jarmaq, Ar-Rayhan and the village of Armun near Qal'at Shaqif as a result of incendiary bombs.

Our reporter in Tyre has reported that the shelling of Tyre, which stopped at 1400, was resumed against the suburbs of Tyre and Ra's al-'Ayn and Ar-Rashidiyah at 1530. Extensive damage was caused to houses and property. In the harbor, 10 fishing boats were hit. According to confirmed reports from our correspondent, the Israeli forces are heavily concentrating in the western and central sectors, particularly in Duhur al-Bayyadah and on the road between Marj 'Uyun and Jisr al-Khardali and Al-'Ayshiyah, supported by armored cars and other vehicles. Due to the shelling of residential areas, many families who had returned to their homes were forced to leave again.

PLO'S 'ARAFAT ADDRESSES ARAB STUDENTS IN BEIRUT 22 AUG

JN230740 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 23 Aug 79 JN

[Excerpt] Yesterday, brother leader Abu 'Ammar met with Arab students participating in the first Arab students' working camp. During the 3-hour meeting, brother Abu 'Ammar hosted a banquet in honor of the Arab students, who represent student federations from Syria, Iraq, the PDRY, Libya, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan and Palestine.

Brother Abu 'Ammar discussed current issues, the students' role in the Palestinian and pan-Arab struggle, the challenges facing our nation and the mounting war in southern Lebanon. He said: I am pleased to meet with these militant vanguards, who are playing a leading role in our Palestinian struggle and in all the Arab issues. You are guests of the Lebanese Nationalist movement, which has welcomed us and which is now fighting alongside the Palestinian revolution in defense of our Arab nation.

Brother Abu 'Ammar then explained the dimensions of the war of annihilation in the south and the objectives behind the enemy's destructive land, air and sea shelling. He said that a 117 km-long front, which extends from Tyre to Hasbaya, was subjected to continuous shelling all day yesterday. He said: Israel is preparing to carry out a military operation in the south. It is our fate to fight and to confront the aggression. Lebanon will never be the weakest front. Indeed, it is the strongest front, thanks to the Arab force there, which rejects the imperialist equations and is fighting them valiantly.

Discussing the U.S. role, brother Abu 'Ammar said: Washington cannot deceive us with its talks about the Zionist lobby. We know this game and its objectives. That is why, at the Baghdad summit, we said that the United States is the head of the snake and that we must impose sanctions upon it. The United States is our primary enemy, plotting to subjugate the area to the imperialist will.

Dealing with the oil issue, brother leader Abu 'Ammar said: Our cause is linked with oil and energy, which is why we have been exposed to a war of annihiliation intended to disintegrate the area. We must recall prohibiting any Arab contact between the Gulf and the Mediterranean, because this contact is bound to threaten imperialist interests and to wipe out the Zionist entity in Palestine.

In conclusion, brother Abu 'Ammar answered questions raised by the students. He said that this camp is a pan-Arab meeting in the frontline of the Arab nation's defense. It expresses the real cohesion between our struggle and that of the Arab nation against the vicious imperialist-Zionist onslaught.

AUTHORITIES REQUEST EXTRADITION OF MUHSIN'S ASSASSIN

JN221436 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1350 GMT 22 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Damascus, 22 August--The SANA correspondent has learned that competent authorities in the Syrian Arab Republic have asked Swiss authorities to hand over the Lebanese Citizen Muhsin Jarudi, who was arrested in Geneva on suspicion of being behind the assassination of comrade Zuhayr Muhsin, head of the PLO Military Department, last July.

Yesterday, a spokesman for the Swiss minister of justice and police said that the Security Forces arrested the Lebanese citizen Muhsin Jarudi on suspicion of being behind the assassination of comrade Muhsin. The spokesman added that the suspect remained in custody and that the preliminary interrogation has shown that Jarudi may have been the assassin. The French examining magistrate had ordered the arrest of Jarudi through INTERPOL.

AL-ASAD CONGRATULATES ROMANIAN PRESIDENT ON NATIONAL DAY

JN221853 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1755 GMT 22 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Damascus, 22 August--President Hafiz al-Asad has sent the following cable of congratulations to Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu on the occasion of Romania's National Day: Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Bucharest.

On behalf of the Syrian Arab people and in my name, I am glad to send you and the friendly Romanian people our sincerest congratulations and warmest greetings on the occasion of Romania's National Day. I take this opportunity to express my conviction that present bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation will continue to develop on the solid basis laid down during our various meetings and which was consolidated at our recent meeting in Damascus. Please accept our best wishes of continued good health and happiness to you and progress and prosperity to the Romanian people.

DAMASCUS RADIO ON MOTIVES BEHIND U.S.-ISRAELI RIFT

JN221945 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Aug 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Every time the Arab-Israeli conflict is discussed by the international community, the following question arises: How did the plotting partners distribute the roles to be played? It is known that the imperialist-Zionist scheme, which aims at crushing our nation's will to struggle and peddles the capitulatory solutions, is proceeding according to a premeditated, studied plan to consolidate Zionist gains, reinforce U.S. presence and influence in our Arab region and crush any semblance of hope that will revive the will to struggle. The partners of the imperialist-Zionist scheme only want to insinuate that there are alleged differences between imperialism, represented by the United States, and Zionism, represented by the racist aggressor Israel. These partners will then proceed on this basis to say that in order to intensify these differences and give them full dimensions, these differences must meet with the Arab sides' approval of the U.S. stand, an approval that will be interpreted as new concessions by these sides for achieving peace, since such concessions will be considered helpful to the Washington masters, who will then apply increased pressure on the Israeli leaders.

Having made such concessions, the Arab sides will discover that all achievements reached will only represent another victory for Israel at the expense of the Arab cause.

This happened previously, especially during the Camp David negotiations when the U.S. propaganda organs disillusioned world public opinion by pretending that there is a radical difference between the Israeli and U.S. stands on Egypt. Eventually the negotiations were concluded and the agreement was signed only for everyone to discover that the achievement really took the form of unacceptable concessions by the As-Sadat regime to Israel's advantage, thus consolidating all Israeli concepts of the nature and principles of peace, which only means capitulation to the Israeli enemy.

The same stand was repeated following the signing of the accord, and the imperialist-Zionist move was crowned with the signing of the separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty with the blessing of the United States, which has proved and is still proving that it always adopts the Zionist stand completely.

Today, the same story is repeated only in a more subtle [munaqqah] manner, since the Israeli-As-Sadat peace coordinates its stand in a way that all views complement and conform to one another, to propose a view that aims at liquidating the Palestinian issue and ending the Arab-Israeli conflict in accordance with Israeli conditions.

Lately, a number of reports have circulated on the possibility of amending Resolution 242, which was issued by the UN Security Council on the eve of 5 June 1967, in a way that infers recognition of the Arab Palestinian people's national rights. Obviously, the motive behind the circulation of these reports is to involve the PLO in adopting stands that could lead to a new Camp David, but under a different guise. These reports coincided with the UN Security Council's call for convening a session to crystallize this amendment.

Coinciding with the circulation of these reports, talks began on alleged new differences between As-Sadat's Egypt and Israel on one side, and the United States on the other. The motive was to insinuate that Carter is adopting stands on the Palestinian issue that are neither acceptable to As-Sadat nor Begin. Such allegations are circulated in order to find a link between Washington and Palestinians, which will lead to Palestinian recognition of the Israeli entity and granting concessions in return for an ambiguous U.S. promise to amend the autonomy formula, which is essentially an Israeli project previously proposed by the Zionists.

The imperialist-Zionist scheme, which aims at finding a settlement for the situation in the region in accordance with Zionist conditions, will not be peddled and will be subject to more thwarting now that the Arab nation is determined to follow the path of confrontation and steadfastness, and now that the Palestinian groups have become aware of the motives of the new U.S. trap. The Palestinian issue will remain at the center of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Arab strugglers will still aspire to reach a just and comprehensive settlement only by achieving Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and guaranteeing the Arab Palestinian people's inalienable rights to determine their fate and establish their independent state on their own national soil.

LIBYA

AT-TURAYKI RETURNS FROM LAGOS CONFERENCE

LD221704 Tripoli JANA in English 1432 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Aug 22, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Foreign Secretary Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam at-Turayki arrived home last night, having attended the conference on national reconciliation in Chad which wound up in Lagos at noon yesterday, with an agreement on national reconciliation in Chad.

Dr at-Turayki asserted that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, having stood by the Chadian people as they struggled for independence and the abolition of imperialism, would maintain the same stand while they build their country. Speaking at the conference's closing session, Dr at-Turayki pointed out that the agreement reached was not the victory of a party over the other but that of the whole Chadian people, Africa and African will. He said that Africa is represented by Chad's neighbouring countries. He stressed that Africa was capable of solving its own problems and assume its full responsibilities and that this should serve as an example and a lesson to the enemy of Africa: imperialism.

He remarked that the conference for national reconciliation in Chad has proved that when united, Africa was capable of achieving many of its goals. He said: "It was the whole Chadian people, all its sectors and strata, which was triumphant today after long years of misery and torture. The Chadian people with its unified forces can build Africa, side by side with its brethren, a united, strong Africa liberated from all forms of military, political and economic colonialism." He pointed out that a strong Chad would help the African struggle against racism and imperialism in the continent and against racist Zionism and world imperialism.

Dr at-Turayki stressed that what was achieved so far was only a beginning. He called upon the Chadian people to take a united stand and take care, for more difficult tasks were awaiting them.

ALGERIA'S YAHIAOUI RECEIVED BY AL-QADHDHAFI, DEPARTS

LD221829 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The commander of the revolution yesterday evening received Mohamed Salah Yahiaoui, member of the Political Bureau and coordinator of the National Liberation Front Party [of Algeria] who arrived in Tripoli yesterday evening where he was welcomed by Maj al-Khuwayzidi al-Humaydi, the Algerian ambassador to the Socialist People's Libyan Jamahiriyah, and a representative of the Protocol Department at the Foreign Secretariat.

Brother Yahiaoui left Tripoli this morning. He said to a JANA correspondent that he was happy to visit the Jamahiriyah, which is one of the strongholds of struggle and a revolutionary base.

MAURITANIA

FOREIGN MINISTER REITERATES NEUTRALITY IN SAHARA

LD212206 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 21 Aug 79 LD

[Text] Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Ahmedou Ould Abdallah, who is on a visit to Senegal, held a press conference in Dakar in which he underlined the resolve of Mauritania to maintain neutrality in the Western Sahara conflict, saying that Mauritania is not a party to the dispute and wishes to see its territorial integrity and neutral stance respected.

However, the minister added, we shall not accept any attempt designed to prejudice the stability of our country.

The foreign minister was received by Senegalese Culture Minister Assane Seck, who is acting president.

PRESS COMMENTS ON KING HASSAN'S PRESS CONFERENCE

LD212346 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 21 Aug 79 LD

[Excerpt] Under the headline "Blatant Expansionist Ambitions," the Mauritanian press agency says:

The analysis presented by the king of Morocco at his press conference last Sunday unambiguously revealed to world public opinion the true expansionist ambitions of his majesty and the contempt he held for the will of peoples and his misrepresentation of history.

The king's efforts have not only led to resentment but also created in particular an increasing and genuinely justified concern. The king of Morocco, as evident from his press conference, presents his own personal wishes as facts. He goes further and turns his will into law to which others must bow their heads.

For our part we can but stand firmly and resolutely in face of the threats which have been lately and clearly made by the king of Morocco, threats which are directed against our national and territorial unity and stability in our country. [Words indistinct] it expresses no more than his will to divide our country and in order to realize this he resorts to every means he finds and seeks allies from among our neighbors.

On the other hand, we may ask: What is the significance of the new (?assertion) made by the king when he says that the POLISARIO Front is no more than members of the Mauritanian opposition, what can be the significance of this theory? This is no more than reasserting the will of the king [words indistinct] and to justify a possible aggression against our country.

We would like to reaffirm our determination to defend our dignity and sovereignty to the end. Our people will draw the necessary conclusion as to the measures to be taken in face of the hostile attitude directed against them.

ASH-SHA'B on Conference

LD210123 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 20 Aug 79 LD

[Text] ASH-SHA'B comments on the press conference Morocco's King Hassan II held last night. Here is the commentary entitled "The Obscure Ambitions of His Majesty:"

After the hostile campaign leveled against our country by the Moroccan information media, and after the aggression against the town of Dakhla at a time when the town was under our provisional administration here is Morocco's King Hassan once again placing the blame on Mauritania without justification. What then is going on in his majesty's mind? We can truly ask about the ambitions of the royalist throne following the press conference the king held last night in which he dealt primarily with the peace agreement our country has concluded with the POLISARIO Front. Surely, Your Majesty, the Mauritanian people--who were victims of your verbal (?attacks) during your press conference--contrary to what you said, expected you to show more flexibility, self-restraint and an ethical spirit in these crucial circumstances in the history of our people.

At a time when the Mauritanian people were endeavoring to establish peace in the area--and particularly to safeguard the valuable ties that continued to link the Mauritanian and Moroccan peoples--Your Majesty has taken upon yourself the serious responsibility of igniting the flames of a verbal war that is not appropriate for our two countries. Your Majesty, this prompts us to wonder and express regret at the same time. But the Mauritanian people are resolved, whatever the circumstances, to quit an unjust war into which they were dragged without justification. This is the basic issue, and it is your duty, O King, to take it into account.

With the situation as it is now, what can we conclude from the press conference the king held last night? First, it has become clear to us from the press conference that King Hassan II was trying his utmost, but without success, to portray the peace agreement we have signed with the POLISARIO Front as nothing more than a farce. In truth, the king exceeded the bounds of courtesty and went beyond arrogance when he described the peace agreement as disgraceful. What have we done, Your Majesty? Have you forgotten or pretended to forget flexibility and prudence? Is not this a form of interference in Mauritania's domestic affairs where Moroccanism no longer exists except in the imagination of these who plan imaginary empires?

Although you have, in any case, the freedom to announce whatever you wish to announce or carry out any action you wish to take in the future, we affirm to you, and history is a witness, that Mauritania is a free and sovereign state. Thus, it can sign any agreement it sees fit and it will not bow to the will of anyone else, whoever he may be. We stress that the Algiers agreement has not been signed in secret (?as you allege). The agreement was announced to the entire world. And through official representatives our country has explained the significance of this agreement to international public opinion.

Yes, Mauritania announced more than a year ago that it was frankly seeking peace. Our attention--and our history witnesses this--during this period continued to follow this course, spurred as we were by desire to reach a comprehensive settlement of the conflict in the area. And today, our country has achieved peace for itself without the Moroccan kingdom. However, the latter appears not to have been ready until now to begin to search for peace. But whatever the case, history sooner or later will pronounce the final decision and it will have its final word on the painful conflict that is going on in the Western Sahara. Whatever the ambitions of the Moroccan Kingdom, logic will compel it (?whether it wishes or not) to tread one day the path of dialog and consultation. We therefore invite Your Majesty to think about this bitter truth fully and to submit to the will of reality, whatever other considerations there may be.

On the other hand, Your Majesty stated at the press conference that Morocco will come to Mauritania's aid if it is exposed to aggression. But we would say to Your Majesty that we do not need this aid because Mauritania believes it has achieved peace and is no longer exposed to any threat. But, in any event, we cannot ignore Morocco's threats against our country's sovereignty--and these have not been made in passing and have even begun to be a source of increasing concern. We have heard of the right of pursuit with which the Moroccan Kingdom has now begun to threaten Mauritania. But why is this threat being made and why has the Moroccan Kingdom exercised this right of pursuit against Algeria? The king, by (?overstressing) the right of pursuit has revealed his belief that Mauritania is a weak link--that it has no strength and that it lacks the will to repel aggression. But this is wrong.

The king has miscalculated, because the Mauritania of today is much stronger than the Mauritania of the 1960's and even then it managed to foil your maneuvers and your expansionist ambitions, and it compelled you to recognize before the world its existing as an independent and sovereign state.

The Mauritanian people are resolved to defend the sovereignty and independence of their country to the last drop of their blood. And this being the case, we see the king refer to his expected meeting with President Senghor to define the stand that must be taken toward Mauritania. Has Senegal--a fraternal sovereign state that is a friend of Mauritania's--become a case to be cited against Mauritania? No. The Senegalese people feel that they are much closer to the Mauritanian people than to the royalist throne. They will never behave in a manner that might affect Mauritanian-Senegalese ties.

And what can be said about Your Majesty's unbalanced analysis of what he termed the Mauritanian movement? Your Majesty, others before you have tried without success to destroy the unity of the Mauritanian people. The unity of the Mauritanian people cannot be affected by [word indistinct] analysis that is devoid of meaning. Your attacks against the OAU clearly show the absurd way in which you received the peace agreement that was signed on 5 August in Algiers--an agreement that represents the direct implementation of the resolutions of this great organization. The monetary checks that might have passed through some hands on the sidelines of the Monrovia meeting, as you have stated, cannot have come, that is if this is true, except from circles that are hostile to the resolutions of the OAU. Mauritania, which voted with the vast majority in favor of these resolutions, is not concerned about the issue of these checks.

Your Majesty has shocked public opinion by the offensive manner in which you conducted your press conference. The insults you uttered against Mauritania and its officials--whom you allege do not represent it--these insults and the threats you unleashed will not terrify us, but, on the contrary, they will increase our determination to work, whatever the cost, for peace and for the purpose of strengthening our national independence and sovereignty. Arything else is nothing more than a futile maneuver.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI TO RELOCATE REFUGEES FOR SECURITY REASONS

JN221743 Khartoum SUNA in English 1725 GMT 22 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, Aug 22, (SUNA)--Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri warned here today that he would not hesitate in confronting any attempt to threaten Sudan's security and stability.

In apparent reference to student riots that swept the capital city of Khartoum early this month, the Sudanese leader, who was addressing his executive aides today, said the revolution's foes (25th May revolution) thought that the sole alternative to power was insecurity, chaos and disunity.

"Any incapability to restore security, stability and order should be faced by immediate decisiveness," President Numayri told his executives. He exhorted them to confront corruption and demerits in government departments and corporation offices with courage and decisiveness.

The Sudanese head of state hinted that his government plans to evacuate the capital from refugees--mainly Eritreans, Chadians and Zaireans.

"It is high time to evacuate the refugees and illegal immigrants from Khartoum and main Sudanese towns to camps near borders," he said.

Such an inflow, Numayri added, is a direct threat to security of citizens and the state as well.

He put it clear that the refugees and illegal immigrants have played a key role in creating crisis and bottlenecks and in increasing rates of consumption all over the Sudan.

VICE PRESIDENT ADMONISHES UGANDAN FOREIGN MINISTER

JN182043 Khartoum SUNA in English 2015 GMT 18 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Lagos, Nigeria, Aug 18, Sudanese Vice-President and Foreign Minister ar-Rashid at-Tahir said that Sudan finds it impossible to understand Uganda's stance or establish good relations with her.

In a meeting here today with Ugandan Foreign Minister Otema Alimadi, in which they reviewed bilateral relations, At-Tahir said that Sudan was surprised by the aggressive stance assumed by Uganda at the African summit in Monrovia, Liberia, last month.

Further, he said, Sudan was offended by inhuman attacks on her diplomatic mission in Kampala by the Ugandan troops, in addition to the unfounded accusation made by the Ugandan Government that Sudan is attempting to topple it in collaboration with other countries.

The Ugandan minister in a visit to communicate a message to Lt General Obasanjo expressed his country's regret over what took place and her desire in establishing good relation with Sudan.

He also communicated to At-Tahir a message to President Numayri from the Ugandan president, Godfrey Binaisa. At-Tahir is leading Sudan's delegation to the Lagos conference for Chadian reconciliation currently held here.

OPPOSITION IN BEIRUT ISSUES STATEMENT AGAINST NUMAYRI

NC201055 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 18 Aug 79 pp 1, 14 NC

[Text] Sudanese leftists in Beirut calling themselves "the Progressive Sudanese Front" have accused President Ja'far Numayri's government of arresting hundreds of Sudanese in Sudan on charges of riots, sabotage and instigation.

In the first statement issued by their front, these Sudanese did not disclose their identity. However, Lebanese leftist sources said that they number in the hundreds and most of them are leftist and communist students.

The statement said: "We are working to overthrow the rightist military dictatorial regime in Sudan through a wide front so as to return democracy. The revolutionary Sudanese forces are in the forefront of the struggle for democracy to save Sudan from the lackey subservient regime."

The statement added: "Our people's national and revolutionary forces condemn Numayri and his rightist clique for their support of agent As-Sadat's treason and humiliating capitulation to U.S. imperialism and Zionism and his relinquishment of the Arab people's national rights, particularly those of the Palestinian people."

The statement further said: "We support the liberation of Palestine and the occupied land by force and by mobilizing the masses and pooling resources intead of reactionary and rightist Arab bargaining with Western imperialism led by the United States intended to maintain the authority of the ruling reactionaries in the Arab countries.

The statement said that the front supports "the struggle of the armed Palestinian resistance, of the nationalist and progressive Lebanese movement, of the Arab progressive and national forces and of the world revolutionary forces, primarily the Soviet Union and the socialist countries."

The statement accused the Sudanese authorities of arresting "the strugglers, workers and students of our people and of putting them in the jails of dictatorship on charges of riots, sabotage and instigation."

The statement said what is required now is to launch a wide solidarity campaign to release those detainees. The statement said that the progressive Sudanese front announces the formation of organizations from revolutionary Sudanese people in Lebanon for the first time. The front considers itself to be "a humble and small branch of the progressive Sudanese movement."

TUNISIA

NOUIRA, PRC VICE MINISTER HAIL SINO-TUNISIAN COOPERATION

LD210751 [Editorial Report LD] Tunis L'ACTION in French 16 August 1979 carries on page 5 a 2,500-word unattributed report on the opening of the PRC-aided Medjerda-Cape Bon canal project by Tunisian Prime Minister Hedi Nouira in the presence of PRC Vice Water Conservancy Minister Zhang Jinong on 15 August. In his speech, Nouira stated among other things: "Thanks to the PRC, we have been able to overcome scientific and technical problems involved in the implementation of such a large-scale project. The PRC is also helping Tunisia to finance and carry out this work.

"On behalf of President Bourguiba, I would like to pay tribute on this solemn occasion to the PRC Government's effective and fraternal cooperation and to the genius of the Chinese people. The Tunisian people appreciate this whole-hearted solidarity and will see the implementation of this new vital project as yet another symbol of friendship and cooperation between our two countries.

"Let me greet PRC Vice Water Conservancy Minister Zhang Jinong, who has been kind enough to accept the Tunisian Government's invitation to participate in the inauguration of the work on the canal. I would like to again bid him and the delegation accompanying him welcome and express to them our satisfaction with respect to the success and progress of Tunisian-Chinese cooperation which has developed and grown stronger with every passing year to the advantage of our two countries.

Zhang Jinong also delivered a speech in which, among other things, he paid tribute to President Bourguiba and the Tunisian Government and people for the great efforts made by them in the development sphere.

"Through their work and wisdom, "he stated, "the heroic and hard-working Tunisian people contributed greatly to mankind's ancient civilization.

For many years they waged a heroic and tireless struggle against aggression and oppression by imperialism and colonialism and won independence, which earned for them the respect and sympathy of peoples throughout the world. I am pleased to see that, under President Bourguiba's leadership, the Tunisian people have achieved great successes in the struggle for the preservation of their sovereignty and independence, the development of the national economy and the building of the country. We are amazed at your successes and your victories.

"In recent years," he continued, "Sino-Tunisian relations in the sphere of economic and technical cooperation have developed satisfactorily. During the period devoted to the study of the project, the two countries' technicians have achieved fruitful cooperation which has contributed to the consolidation of friendship between the two peoples."

Official Departs

LD221446 Tunis TAP in English 1345 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Text] Tunis, Aug 22 (TAP)--Zhang Jinong, Chinese water resources vice-minister left Tunis, Tuesday, after a 9-day official visit.

Jinong attended the ceremony of the launching of the Medjerda-Cape Bon canal waterworks which will be achieved [as received] thanks to China's technical contribution. The Chinese vice-minister expressed China's will to strengthen friendly relations and cooperation between both countries insisting that there are broad prospects of development.

Besides, Zhang Jinong stated that his stay in Tunisia allowed him to get acquainted with Tunisia's economic achievements, and the good conditions of life which the Tunisian people enjoy.

WESTERN SAHARA

PRIME MINISTER VOWS TO CONTINUE STRUGGLE IN MOROCCO

ID221345 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Excerpts] Mohamed Lamine, the Saharan prime minister, confirmed in an interview published by the national paper ASH-SHA'B that the next military replies to Moroccan occupation of Rio de Oro will be conducted in depth on Moroccan territory. The war which is imposed upon us cannot be experienced by our country alone, he said. Morocco must also experience it. He also stressed that the POLISARIO will impose peace by force of arms.

The Saharan prime minister also deplores the silence of Western countries about the extension of Moroccan aggression in the south of the Sahara, and reckons that this silence promotes the continuation of the war and its expansion to the detriment of the (?neighboring) peoples.

Speaking of the position of Mauritania since Morocco's installation in Rio de Oro, the Saharan prime minister confirms that the Mauritanian people will always find the Saharan people at their side to support them in the defense of their independence and territorial integrity.

ASH-SHA'B COMMENTS ON MOROCCO'S 'MISCALCULATIONS'

LD181544 Oran Domestic Service in Arabic 0000 GMT 18 Aug 79 LD

["Maghreb of Peoples" program press review]

[Text] ASH-SHA'B under the headline "Miscalculations" has commented on the position in northwest Africa following the latest dangerous developments arising from the attempt of the Moroccan regime to impose a fait accompli on the peoples of the region. It writes: After extending the Moroccan aggression to that part of the Western Sahara which was administered by Mauritania, it is clear from the aggressive plans of the Moroccan regime that it seeks to achieve twin objectives:

1. To face African and world public opinion with a new reality and to induce it to accept it as an irreversible fait accompli. This is revealed by the so-called allegiance ceremony and the decision to regard the newly usurped part of the Western Sahara as the 40th province of the kingdom.

2. To wage a misleading and poisonous campaign to incite Moroccan public opinion against Algeria and Mauritania, giving the impression that Morocco is in danger and is beseiged in the east and south by the Algerian-Mauritanian alliance, and that Mauritanian territory, as a result of the peace agreement, has become a new base for the activities of the Saharan Liberation Army.

Thus and so long as the ends justify the means, the virulent and misleading campaign has gone so far as to lead one of the palace papers to publish lies which it presented as confirmed reports alleging that Algerian units were present in the Mauritanian port of Nouabhibou in accordance with the Algiers agreement [between Mauritania and POLISARIO].

It is no longer a mystery to any observer who follows the expansionist policy of the Moroccan regime that the aim of circulating such lies is, on one hand, to justify Moroccan usurpation of Dakhla, presenting it as a defensive operation, consistent with old ambitions, to protect security of Morocco from the danger of a siege and encirclement; and, on the other hand, to prepare the political and psychological atmosphere for future aggressive operations against Mauritania and the occupation of its territory in realization of the security concept. These aggressive intentions are confirmed by the continued presence of the Moroccan occupation forces in Mauritania and the failure to withdraw a single soldier, despite the Mauritanian demand for prompt withdrawal, by the establishment of the so-called movement of free officers led by the agent Lt Col Abdelkader, and by the existing coordination with some agent regimes in west Africa which fomented race conflicts between whites and blacks in Mauritania to make it maintain silence and disregard its commitment to the Saharan people.

Such are the calculations of the buffoon of Morocco who imagines that by occupying Dakhla, staging the allegiance farce and presenting himself as the victim of an encirclement plan, he has resolved the problem and has relieved the United Nations and OAU of any commitment toward the Saharan people, and that all that remains is to carry out some punitive action against mercenaries.

There is no need to prove how absurd such an imagination is. Experience has given enough evidence that the policy of fait accompli has failed in every field. It is no longer acceptable after having been exposed in very political and military respect. The royal regime may bury its head in the sand so that it may not see the facts, but what it cannot do is to change these facts.

BEGIN PROPOSES CONSOLIDATING LIKUD AT FACTION MEETING

TA221922 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 22 Aug 79 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin has proposed consolidating the Likud factions within 6 months. According to him, this is the serious change needed at the moment. Mr Begin submitted his proposal at a meeting of the Knesset Likud faction discussing the Cabinet's performance. Mr Begin rejected proposals for changes in the Cabinet. He said that the Knesset faction could not decide on such changes and the decision on proposals on this issue should be made by the factions' centers composing the Likud.

Regarding the weaknesses existing now, as he put it, the prime minister suggested to the members of the faction to do everything possible to overcome them. He suggested that the Knesset winter session become a test period.

Our correspondent Amnon Nadav points out that the prime minister was opposed to adopting any decisions at the end of the debate. However, following pressure exerted by the speakers, a decision was adopted on the consolidation of the Likud factions and on submitting proposals for improving the Cabinet performance within 2 to 3 weeks. The debates will be held by representatives of the Likud factions and Cabinet ministers. Our correspondent points out that the faction members demanding personal changes in the Cabinet regard this decision as an opening for continuing the debate on their proposals.

SATISFACTION EXPRESSED AT U.S. PALESTINIAN DECISION

TA221942 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 22 Aug 79 TA

[Text] This evening political circles in Jerusalem expressed satisfaction at the U.S. decision not to submit its own proposal at the Security Council meeting tomorrow. Our correspondent in New York Dan Shilon reports that the United States is now examining several draft proposals on the Palestinian issue to consolidate its position. Another U.S. effort is aimed at promoting a decision in the Security Council.

BEGIN SENDS MESSAGE TO ISRAELI MUSLIMS ON 'ID AL-FITR

TA221733 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 22 Aug 79 TA

[Text] This evening Prime Minister Menahem Begin (greeted) the Muslim citizens of the State of Israel on the occasion of 'Id al-Fitr, the holiday ending the Ramadan fast. In his message the prime minister says he hopes we all will live to celebrate our holidays in conditions of peace, stability and prosperity.

SHARON SUBMITS PROPOSALS ON LAND REQUISITION

TA221645 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 22 Aug 79 TA

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon submitted proposals for the requisition of land to expand several settlements in Judaea and Samaria at a ministerial consultation chaired by the prime minister.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer has learned that no decisions were adopted on this issue or on the establishment of new settlements. However, it was decided to examine Minister Sharon's proposals.

Minister Sharon visited Hebron today. He met with the group of women residing in Bet Hadassah. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports that Sharon arrived in Hebron in the afternoon after the meeting of the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs. He also visited the old synagogue of Avraham Avinu which is being reconstructed under the sponsorship of the military government and with a budget allocated by the Ministry for Religious Affairs.

Qiryat 'Arba inhabitants told our correspondent that they were continuing their activities among Cabinet ministers for adopting a decision to renew Jewish settlement in Hebron in the houses and buildings which belonged to Jews before the 1929 incidents.

HA'ARETZ SPECULATES ON CARTER LETTER PROMISING EGYPTIAN OIL

TA221307 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 22 Aug 79 p 9 TA

[Avraham Tal article: "The Oil-Letter Mystery"]

[Text] Does a letter by President Carter about Egypt's oil commitments exist, and if so, what is its content? In due time--perhaps this month--an authoritative answer to this question will be received, and the tension surrounding the question will be relieved. It is worthwhile to exploit the time left to see what can be gleaned from information that we currently have. In order to understand the importance of the letter, we'd better first review the circumstances of its conception. At the start of the peace treaty negotiations, the energy minister was deeply concerned, because according to him: "In the initial stage of the Camp David talks my colleagues did not deem it necessary to include the oil issue on the agenda." "Endeavoring to rescue what still could be rescued," the minister went to Washington in November 1978 and participated in the Madison Hotel talks. No real results were achieved in those talks (Mr Moda'i thinks, however, that the Egyptians' readiness to discuss oil with us was in itself an accomplishment). Thus, in March 1979, before the signing of the peace treaty, Mr Moda'i was again summoned to come to Washington, and this time he returned very satisfied, saying: The conclusions reached on the subject of oil are meeting "my best hopes." (HA'ARETZ, 30 March)

If we scrutinize the peace treaty, we can find no basis for such exhilarating satisfaction. The instruction referring to our issue postulates that "normal economic relations between Israel and Egypt will include normal sales of oil by Egypt to Israel, and Israel will be entitled to submit bids for Egyptian oil.... Egypt and its concessionaires will treat Israel's proposals on the same basis and according to the same rules that apply to other bidders for that oil."

However, even this clause is explicitly subject to another instruction in the treaty which specifies that "as soon as possible, and no later than 6 months after the completion of the interim withdrawal, the parties will start negotiations toward signing a trade agreement..." As the interim withdrawal is scheduled to end on 25 January 1980, the trade negotiations (including negotiations on the supply of oil) must begin no later than on 25 July 1980. When they will end depends on the negotiators. Thus it transpires that a break might occur in the supply of oil to Israel from the Gulf of Suez between 25 November 1979 (the date when the 'Alma field is returned) and the end of the negotiations, which will begin no later than July 1980 and will end who knows when.

Israel agreed to expedite the withdrawal from the oilfields by 2 months; namely, earlier than was agreed at Camp David (November '79 instead of January '80) and that commitment is included in the peace treaty. At that time it was reported that Egypt agreed, in return for this concession, to supply Israel with oil immediately after the withdrawal, without waiting for the normalization talks, but this concession is not included in the peace treaty. Where is it included? Here we come to the letter of President Carter.

Two questions should be raised about this document: A) Does it exist? B) If it exists--or existed--what did it say? There is some evidence that the letter exists, or at least existed.

On 27 March 1979, immediately after the peace treaty was signed, the HA'ARETZ Washington correspondent reported: "As-Sadat has pledged to Carter that Egypt will supply oil to Israel as a regular client after the evacuation of the Sinai oilfields. Carter will write a letter to Begin, in which As-Sadat's promise will be included." It appears that the letter was both written and sent. "The Egyptian commitment, as included in President Carter's letter to Begin, explicitly specifies a continuous and long-term supply of oil." (HA'ARETZ, 3 April) Moreover, there is also evidence that the letter arrived. When the energy minister was asked in a newspaper interview (HA'ARETZ Supplement, 25 May) "what is in the pocket," he replied: "...If a written document is also a physical fact, then we are also assured of Egyptian oil supply in the future."

Let us leave for a while the fate of the letter and try to clarify its content. The HA'ARETZ correspondent reported on 3 April that "Egypt agreed not to postpone the trade negotiations on the oil issue and promised to supply oil to Israel without waiting for normalization"--meaning, a successive and continuous supply.

Government circles told the HA'ARETZ correpondent (10 August) that not only did President Carter's letter repeat the Egyptian commitment "to supply oil to Israel from the 'Alma fields as of the day the fields are handed over to it," but also that "the oil would be supplied at world market prices!" On the other hand, the circles said that the letter does not include a commitment about the quantities of oil.

It seems, however, that the abovementioned circles have their details wrong, as Minister Moda'i asserted twice in his talk with a HA'ARETZ correspondent that there is an Egyptian commitment regarding quantities. On 30 March he was cited as having said: The quantities of oil to be sold to Israel (according to commitments included in President Carter's letter) won't be smaller than those produced in the 'Alma oilfield when it is returned to Egypt in 7 months." When he was asked in another interview (HA'ARETZ Supplement, 25 May) what will happen should the Egyptians reduce the 'Alma oilfield production for "for technical reasons," he had a reply ready, based on the document: "The agreement specifies only the quantity in accordance with production at At-Tur, but the Egyptians pledged to supply to oil from their total stock."

We see then that President Carter's letter includes all elements important to Israel: A commitment in principle to supply oil, continuity, principles regarding quantities and prices. And now come the worst: There is fear that the letter was lost!

This depressing fear is based on several signs. One sign is based on Minister Moda'i's recent reply to a question about that letter by the HA'ARETZ correespondent: "I cannot answer this question." (10 August) And what can he answer? That the letter was lost? Further investigations, conducted by my colleague Mikha'el Greti, raised facts that indicate great confusion. A source close to the energy minister claimed he saw the letter with his own eyes, and thus he is sure of its existence. But another source--associated even closer--contended that Mr Moda'i is keeping the letter in a safe and that he showed it only to the prime minister, the foreign minister and the defense minister. Every child can see that these answers do not tally. Furthermore, the latter explanation deserves to be treated with suspicion since, according to what is known, the letter in question was sent by President Carter to the prime minister and not to the minister of energy and infrastructure. Why then is the letter kept by Mr Moda'i? However, if we assume that the letter is in the possession of the prime minister, then another question arises: How come the political circles did not know exactly what was written in the letter regarding the quantities of supply--something about which none other but Mr Moda'i informed us?

All this confusion raises the serious suspicion that the letter was simply lost. The suspicion grows in view of the Egyptian oil minister's declaration in Cairo (8 August) that Egypt will supply oil to Israel only after the normalization of relations between the two countries. Would he risk such an assertion, if he were not sure that a letter including President as-Sadat's commitments was lost? The government must be immediately requested to make a painstaking search in all the drawers and files to find the lost letter at once!

MODA'I SHUNS AUSTRIAN CONFERENCE FOR POLITICAL REASONS

TA211429 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 21 Aug 79 TA

[Text] With the government's support, the energy and infrastructure minister has decided not to go to Vienna for a UN-sponsored international conference on science and technology. A delegation of scientists will go instead. Minister Moda'i told our correspondent Yosi Melman it is not the right time for an Israeli minister to be honored by the Austrian Government's hospitality. However, since the conference is important for Israel, which views it as a political battle field, it was decided to send a delegation of scientists. Our correspondent remarks that the reason for the cancellation of the trip was Chancellor Kreisky's hostile position, in the government's opinion.

MILITARY COMMANDER INTERVIEWED ON GAZA POLITICAL TRENDS

TA171232 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 17 Aug 79 TA

[Interview with Brig Gen Yosef Qastel, the military commander of the Gaza Strip, by Arye Gus; time and place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Brigadier General Qastel, you are ending 2 years service in the Gaza Strip. How would you define the current mood in the area compared to the situation prior to As-Sadat's visit?

[Answer] I think that an extreme revival has occurred. When I arrived here, about 2 months before As-Sadat's visit, I almost tiptoed in order not to wake the people. There was simply complete hibernation here. As-Sadat's visit could be said to have awoken and aroused everybody and everything. People understand that the political issues concerning them are being dealt with and it is therefore rather natural they have been awakened and many expectations have developed.

[Question] What do you hear from personages in the area when you talk with them about the autonomy plan, for example?

[Answer] I first feel there is a desire to finally reach a solution. They would go for autonomy, not exactly the proposed one, but with some improvements they would be for it. Still, we are again dealing here with the same obstacle--the fear of the PLO. In addition to this, it is possible to say that the political situation and the autonomy plan are not sufficiently clear yet for them to express an opinion or decide whether they agree or disagree. We have not reached a situation where they are asked whether they agree or not. It is all too early.

[Question] Did you find that the regional personalities were prepared to take part, in one way or another, in today's political process?

[Answer] It is too soon now, not yet. I think there should be more developments. An agreement between Israel and Egypt is a first condition. Other factors such as Jordan's participation in the process could also help.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT ON IDF INITIATIVES AGAINST TERRORISTS

TA221551 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 22 Aug 79 p 9 TA

[Eytan Haber article: "IDF Initiative Disrupts Terrorist Moves"]

[Text] With subterfuge and almost secretly, a far-flung and successful activity is being conducted against the terrorist organizations in southern Lebanon. The results speak for themselves: Since the penetration into Nahariyya 4 months ago (22 April 1979), there has not been a single successful terrorist operation across the Lebanese sea or land frontier--even though no conclusion regarding the future should be drawn from this fact.

It appears that recently the initiative in the war against terrorist organizations went over to the IDF. The assault initiative does not derive from developments in the field. The terrorist township An-Nabatiyya is not being shelled only because Katyushas exploded in Qiryat Shemona. Retaliatory actions have disappeared almost totally. It should be said that this is not the first time that the IDF has chosen this kind of action which, as a rule, has been cut due to political pressures.

According to available information, this kind of activity is the outcome of the efforts of Chief of Staff Rafa'el Eitan, who has always stressed the need for an assault initiative. He is supported by Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman as well as by the entire Cabinet, without whose approval and blessings the IDF could not be engaging in this sort of activity, which is strewn with political mines, involving hostile attitudes on the part of friendly countries and world media, as well as public resentment.

The objective of Israel's assault activities is most clear: To force the terrorist organizations to invest time and resources of manpower and equipment to defend themselves, as well as to disrupt any expected activity against Israel by land or by sea. Information from travellers arriving from southern Lebanon indicates that the success is considerable. The terrorists tend to allot forces for escort, defense and guard duties; they are worried.

The Israeli activity takes several forms.

--Raids: So far raids have been made in the border area, and in Lebanese territory, usually from the sea. What characterized those raids is their painstaking planning and successful execution, which prompted former Chief of Staff Yitzhaq Rabin to describe them as "surgical activities." The advantage of these activities to date has been in the precision of hitting terrorists only with absolute surprise, at times far from the Israeli border. The IDF is taking great pains in these activities to locate the terrorists and hit only them, although they are in areas with a civilian population. To an outside observer these efforts may sometimes appear as a superfluous risk-taking. The disadvantage in these activities is the huge manpower and equipment resources that have to be allotted to such an activity.

--Air force bombardments: They have become routine recently, a part of a regular day, both insofar as the IDF and the terrorists are concerned. The advantage of the air force raids is in their almost unlimited capability of inflicting harrassment in any place and practically at any time--and with a relatively low level of risks. Contrary to land raids, which necessitate precise and extensive planning, the air force can be put into action within a very short time. Activating the air force generates permanent concern among the terrorists, it forces them to split into small groups, to move from one place to another and seek hiding in citrus groves. The disadvantage in the use of planes against terrorists is in the negative repercussions such activity has world-wide, due to imprecise hits resulting in civilian losses to the use of such drastic weapons and equipment.

--Artillery fire from land and sea: This is meant, first and foremost, as a reaction and retaliation for shooting activities in Israeli territory to disrupt the terrorists' mustering of forces and to hit their departure points. Just as when planes are used, the artillery fire from land has the advantage of immediate and inexpensive activation, but the disadvantage of possible misfirings.

Apart from the assault activity, which is getting more frequent recently, the defensive activities on land and sea have scored no small successes: The thwarting of terrorist activities in Ma'alot, Zar'it, Menara [Ramim], Har-Dov and the capture of vessels (Ginean, Stephanie; Naxos; Aegis Dhimitrios, which was en route to Elat for a Katyusha attack), not to mention the sinking of boats which were on their way to strike in Israel.

It is amazing to discover what great efforts the security forces are investing in anti-terrorist activities. This is no small accomplishment for the terrorist organizations, that they have succeeded in tying up such numerous forces devoted to both defense and attack, especially as a single successful terrorist strike is likely to wipe out all the IDF achievements.

KHOMEYNI ISSUES WARNING ON COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ACTS

LD222030 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1914 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Text] Dear listeners, pay attention: Moments ago, the leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran issued an important message. The text of the message from the Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran, which reached us a few moments ago, is as follows:

In the name of Allah, the avenger.

From the post of the leadership of the revolution and the commander in chief of the armed forces, I issue this warning:

1. I proclaim my support for the law enforcement forces, the army, the gendarmerie, the police and the Revolution Guards. I do not permit either a pen to be employed or a step taken to weaken their positions. Violators will be considered criminals and, should a plot be discovered, will be subjected to revolutionary trials in Revolution Courts. From this date forward, no one and no official has the right to weaken these courts.

2. The members of the aforementioned law enforcement forces should obey orders issued from above and should observe and maintain the chains of command. If these orders are violated, those responsible will be deemed criminals. When a plot is discovered, I will issue the order for them to be tried in field courts.

3. Strikes by law enforcement forces are emphatically prohibited. Violators will be deemed criminals, and the instigators will be considered counterrevolutionaries and will receive revolutionary punishment in Revolution Courts. Should a plot be discovered, I will order the establishment of field courts to try them.

4. I emphatically order that law enforcement forces, particularly the army and the Revolution Guards, should coordinate their actions. All the Guards groups also should coordinate their actions and should cooperate in crushing the criminals and in mopping up the various regions, particularly in Kordestan and Khuzestan. Violators will be considered criminals. Instigators will be subjected to revolutionary trials.

5. I declare to the members of the Democratic Party of Kordestan and the zealous, pure hearted Kurds, who have been deceived by the plotting leaders of this party and the traitors to Islam and the nation, that if they allow the traitors to join the ranks of the nation and Islam, surrender to the barracks and the law enforcement authorities and hand over their arms they will be pardoned. If they confiscate and deliver these arms to us, I will give them huge rewards. However, if they continue to oppose the nation and the government, they will be punished for their anti-Islamic deeds and will be treated harshly.

6. I proclaim to the honorable people of Kordestan that we consider you to be our brothers and equals and that you will enjoy equal rights with your other Iranian brothers wherever you may be and that in the Islamic Republic there is absolutely no difference between Azarbayjanis, Kurds, Lors, Arabs, Persians or Baluchis. Only plotters and agents of the foreigners prevent the carrying out of reforms. I call on you, Kurdish border inhabitants, to back the law enforcement forces with all your might and to crush completely the ill-wishers to Islam and the country.

7. I have instructed the managing director of the NIOC, following discussions with the government, to set aside 1 days' oil revenues for Kordestan.

In this connection, the government is dutybound to carry out this order as quickly as possible within a week, to pay attention to our dear Kurdish brethren who have been subjected to attacks by desperadoes and to take steps with regard to other provinces.

8. I must thank the fighting and honorable Iranian nation, which with the utmost fidelity and bravery declared their readiness to crush the desperadoes and safeguard the country's borders and which rose to support the law enforcement forces. The Guards and the rest of the law enforcement forces today stem from Islam and are moving along the path of Islam. Support for them is the religious and national duty of all of us.

[Signed] Ruhollah Mosavi Khomeyni.

REVOLUTION GUARDS COMMANDER SAYS KORDESTAN CALM

LD221105 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Text] Abu Sharif, operational commander of the Corps of the Revolution Guards, has said that the situation in the Kordestan region is calm. Abu Sharif stressed that counterrevolutionary acts were reinforced by foreign forces because most of the arms used by counterrevolutionaries were new. The operational commander of the Revolution Guards said that development and welfare problems were the most important causes of the disturbances in Kordestan.

Kurds Issue Warning

NC221616 Paris AFP in English 1552 GMT 22 Aug 79 NC

[Text] Tehran, Aug 22 (AFP)--Kurdish activists today issued an ultimatum to Iranian authorities, threatening to execute one "Guardian of the Revolution" for every Kurd executed by the government, Kurdish sources said here.

The Kurds demanded the immediate release of all Kurdish prisoners arrested during security operations by Iranian forces in recent days.

They said they were holding a large number of Guardians of the Revolution prisoner.

The Kurds also demanded the immediate recall to Tehran of Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali, who was named on Monday to head Islamic tribunals in the Kurdish provinces by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

The Kurds, who said they had released 311 Guardians of the Revolution in the presence of official representatives in the past few days, complained that hundreds of Kurdish intellectuals, militants and students were still in jail and risked execution at any time.

Paveh Citizens Thank Khomeyni

LD230708 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 23 Aug 79 LD

[Text] In a message dispatched to the Imam Khomeyni, the people of Paveh have expressed their gratitude to their brother Guards and troops who did not shrink from sacrificing, even to the extent of their lives, in order to reestablish order in the region.

Chief of Staff Statement

LD221726 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued by Maj Gen Mohammad Hoseyn Shaker, chief of the combined General Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, today:

Following the auspicious revolution of the Iranian nation, the Islamic Republic's Army has been beset with difficulties, although outwardly insignificant. These difficulties began with the attack launched by a number of counterrevolutionary elements on Sanandaj and continued as a result of the steps taken by these reactionary elements, which are the stooges of Zionism and world imperialism, in such other places as Gonbad-e Kavus, mahabad, Naqadeh and Khorramshahr.

The Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran faced the incidents every time, taking care, while dispersing the counterrevolutionary elements and establishing calm in the areas, to avoid clashing with the people, only few of whom had been deceived by the counter-revolutionary elements and by enemies of the Iranian nation. Now once again a number of these wicked people have embarked on operations in Paveh and, just as the leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran, His Great Eminence Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni, has graciously said, the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran too proclaims with decisiveness that henceforth it will not allow any person, group or faction to take steps against the interest of the revolution and against dear Iran, and that it will crush the enemies of independence, freedom and the realm's integrity and all armed resistance.

NEWSPAPER HAS NO BASIS FOR APPEAL AGAINST CLOSURE

LD221650 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Excerpt] Following recent closure of some newspapers at the orders of the Islamic revolution prosecutor, the minister of national guidance, speaking about the relationship between their closure and the new press bill, told our correspondent: As the decision of the Islamic revolution prosecutor concerns the revolutionary matters of the country, and the prosecutor and the Revolution Courts are entitled to deal with any counterrevolutionary activity in the society in a revolutionary manner and by acting in a revolutionary manner--therefore, in no way can we protest to the office of the revolution prosecutor for having carried out these legal actions. Even if we refer to the press bill, most of the recent activities of the revolution prosecutor have been in accordance with the approved regulations, because according to the note of article 2 of the press bill approved earlier this month, newspaper publishers whose positions and professions are among those mentioned in the note of the said article should stop publishing their newspaper or magazine without any investigation or any reference to the court. If, after being informed of the text of the law, they have not closed their newspaper or magazine so far, both the prosecutor of Tehran and, in the current conditions of the country, the revolution prosecutor can close such newspapers.

Therefore, most publications which have been closed at the orders of the revolution prosecutor are subject to this rule and no objection is valid against the actions of the revolution prosecutor, because even if the revolution prosecutor had not done so, most certainly the prosecutor of Tehran would have acted according to his legal duties.

Mr Minatchi, asked about the open letter of the writers' syndicate expressing support for AYANDEGAN newspaper and protesting its closure, said: The Ministry of National Guidance will carry out the necessary investigation into this matter and, so far as the law permits, will express its views. However, I should inform you that some of the protests of the writers' syndicate as expressed in their letter are not accepted by the members of the editorial board of AYANDEGAN, because some members of the board representing their colleagues have come to this ministry expressing their demands about the investigation of the situation of the employees. The printers of the newspaper have also expressed their objection to some parts of the open letter of the writers' syndicate, including the questions of the confiscation of the assets of AYANDEGAN.

Everyone knows that AYANDEGAN has no assets. All its assets and belongings such as printing machinery and other printing equipment and other items belonged to the Yedegaran printing press, and this company, according to existing documents and evidence, was founded during the former regime with the assistance of Israel. Daryush Homayun is its major shareholder, and he is being sued by the Islamic Revolution prosecutor. Therefore, both from a religious and legal point of view, confiscation of the property of this company has been within the jurisdiction of the revolution prosecutor. Its property is, in fact, the right of the oppressed and belongs to the Foundation of the Oppressed.

Therefore, the claims of the writers' syndicate about the legitimate right of the editorial board of AYANDEGAN to confiscate the property of the company in its own favor has no religious or legal validity. This claim is also being rejected by representatives of the editorial board of AYANDEGAN. Even they do not accept this claim and do not regard the editorial board as the owner of the confiscated property. They are even saying that the editorial board has in no way tried to confiscate the property of Daryush Homayun. It should be borne in mind that, basically, AYANDEGAN has no property and the name and the license of AYANDEGAN belonged to Dr Ahari, who has turned over the concession and the related rights to this ministry and has renounced his entitlement to these rights.

The minister also said that AYANDEGAN newspaper, according to note 1 of article 11 of the press bill, was not qualified to apply to the appropriate committee responsible for reviewing the applications for legal permit in the name of AYANDEGAN, as it did not possess any license for publication.

12,000 TALEQANI VOTES IN TEHRAN ELECTIONS DEEMED INVALID

LD22144. Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 19 Aug 79 p 12 LD

[Unattributed report: "Head of the Council for Supervision of the Tehran Elections: '264 Tehran Election Complaints Have Been Investigated'"]

[Excerpt] Yesterday morning the head of the council for supervision of the Tehran elections announced that "notices of validity" in respect to the Tehran candidates have been signed and issued by the central supervisory team and the governor of Tehran.

Concerning complaints received from various groups who participated in the elections to the assembly for final consideration of the constitution, he announced that as many as 264 complaints arrived at the headquarters and of these 200 were from the Jombesh coalition groups and the Sazman-e Mojahedin-e Khalq, 2 from the Sazman-e Cherikha-ye Khalq and 20 from the Islamic Republican Party. The remainder were from individuals.

Regarding the method used to judge the complaints, the election supervisor said: "We invited a group of seven judges associated with the parties, and these competent persons investigated the complaints over a period of 3 days and found that twenty of them were justified. On this basis, 13 ballot boxes containing 13,379 votes were deemed null and void. Of these 12,000 were votes for Ayatollah Taleqani.

Limit on Review of Constitution

LD221135 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Excerpts] The council for the final review of the draft constitution in its session today concluded work on reviewing the council's standing regulations, and approved them with some amendments. Our correspondent reports that in line with article 23 of the council's standing regulations, the duration of the work of the council for the final review of the constitution was set at 31 days. Furthermore, it was decided that, if necessary and with the council's approval, the period could be extended by a maximum of 15 days. Today's session of the council concluded at 1300.

ZANJAN RESIDENTS ORDERED TO SURRENDER ARMS

LD221036 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued today by the Zanjan Islamic prosecutor:

In His exalted name. On the command of the great leader Imam Khomeyni, this is a warning to the citizens of Zanjan and its suburbs that any arms in their possession must be delivered to the Revolution Guards stationed in Zanjan or to representatives of the Islamic revolution within 24 hours. As soon as the Guards see arms or suspect their presence, such arms will be seized without delay, and the owners will be taken to the Islamic Revolution Court of Zanjan. Illegal groups are warned they must immediately vacate government-owned properties they have occupied and hand them over to the Guards. Those who disobey orders will be liable to criminal prosecution.

[Signed] Mahmud Omidi, Islamic revolution prosecutor of Zanjan.

TEHRAN REPORTS EXECUTION OF FORMER TABRIZ OFFICIAL

LD221050 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Excerpt] The Tabriz Islamic Revolution Court, after several sessions during which files of eight agents of the hated Pahlavi regime were considered, issued the following verdicts:

Capt Hasan Tajoddini, supervisor of the teams of the so-called joint countersubversion committee of Tabriz, was found guilty of the murder of Ahad Partovi, taking part in the killing of several members of the Mahdiyun group in 1977, torturing struggling individuals, intimidating, frightening and arresting them, and indecent acts in public. He was guilty of sowing corruption on earth and of waging war against God, and he was sentenced to death. The death sentence was carried out immediately. Morteza Abolhasani, known as Haqbin, police officer and supervisor of an operational unit in the so-called joint countersubversion committee of Tabriz, was found guilty of taking part in the arrest and subsequent martyrdom of several members of the Mahdiyun group in 1977, torturing and injuring those under arrest, and intimidating and frightening struggling mojahedin. He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

TEHRAN REPORTS ARMY KILLS 15 IN SAQQEZ CLASH

LD221656 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Text] In a clash between a unit of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran and counterrevolutionaries 5 kilometers from the town of Saqqez, 15 counterrevolutionary elements have been killed and wounded. Major Amin of Kordestan's 28th Division, in contact with the PARS AGENCY this afternoon, denied the rumors about huge losses in today's clashes, and said: The dissemination of these baseless rumors by counterrevolutionary elements are aimed only at demoralizing our Kurdish brothers and the members of the army. The same official said: So far 15 assailants have been killed and wounded, and the army has only suffered one soldier martyred and three wounded. According to a PARS AGENCY correspondent, following this clash the commander of Kordestan's 28th Division immediately left by helicopter for the scene of the clash.

Army Column Attacked

LD222212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2130 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The following statement has been issued by the public relations office of the combined General Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

With the agreement of the religious leaders and the Muslim citizens of Saqqez, a column of Army units of the Islamic Republic of Iran set out from Sanandaj for Saqqez and, according to the religious leaders and the Kurdish brethren in Saqqez, the report on the arrival of the units was welcomed locally. Unfortunately, 5 kms from Saqqez, the column was subjected to an attack by known counterrevolutionaries as a result of which one soldier was martyred and three were wounded. The counterrevolutionaries then spread a cowardly rumor in the town to the effect that the column would be arriving in the town to massacre our Kurdish brethren.

The land force of the Army of the Islamic Republic hereby declares that these rumors are antipopular and groundless, and that the land force of the Army of the Islamic Republic is your sentinel, your servant, is from you and for you.

[Signed] The public relations office of the combined General Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Further Details

LD230706 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 23 Aug 79 LD

[Following processed from news headlines]

[Text] Issuing a communique, Kordestan's 28th Division announced: During the attack launched by counterrevolutionaries on a company that was moving toward Saqqez, 4 troops were martyred and another 12 were wounded. On the basis of unconfirmed reports, in the course of the counterrevolutionaries' attack on the military forces in the vicinity of Saqqez, 15 of the counterrevolutionaries also perished.

ILAM GOVERNOR GENERAL CITES COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ACTS

LD221808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Text] Amir Asadollah Qahramani, governor general of Ilam, announced this afternoon that fleeing attackers have left the Paveh district for Ilam Province. During their activities in the city of Ilam they have resorted to disseminating lies and issuing statements. Ilam's governor general, who spoke to correspondents of the PARS NEWS AGENCY and of the radio and television center in Ilam, confirmed that the dissemination of statements and pamphlets in Ilam is connected with the incidents in Paveh. Border points in the province have been strengthened from every standpoint and God willing, there will be no incidents which disturb the people.

Regarding general disarmament in the province, the governor general said: It has been decided to collect government arms and to issue permits for the arms purchased by the people themselves.

Thousands of people in the town of Miandow 'Ab protested the counterrevolutionary actions of the disbanded Democratic Party of Kordestan in western Iran during a march in the town's streets. The marchers, during a rally in the town's great mosque, expressed readiness to guard the fruits of the Islamic revolution of Iran and to defend the country's borders. The marchers also called for the eradication from the Kordestan region of counterrevolutionary elements.

INFANTRY BRIGADE ARRIVES IN GORGAN 22 Aug

LD221820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Excerpt] The first unit of the armored infantry brigade has left Tehran and arrived in Gorgan to a rousing welcome from the citizens.

AGHA JARI OIL PRODUCTION OVER 500,000 BARRELS DAILY

LD221316 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The head of the National Oil Company in Agha Jari region, speaking by telephone to our reporter there, said: The daily production of oil in Agha Jari region is, on average, 582,000 barrels, which is being produced from the oil regions in Agha Jari, Azanan and (?Range-Safid). He added: From this amount of production, 500,000 barrels are sent to Khark Island for export and the remaining 82,000 barrels are sent through a 1.6-meter pipeline to Abadan refinery for domestic consumption. He said that the liquid natural gas factories in Agha Jari and Marun and the liquid natural gas refinery in Mahshahr port are producing liquid gas at their maximum capacity.

The head of production and refining of the liquid natural gas from Bid Boland region in Agha Jari strongly denied the rumor about the closure of the natural gas gathering station there, and said: This baseless rumor has been spread by counterrevolutionaries and elements of the hated Pahlavi regime, and by imperialist and Zionist elements. He said that all the sections of the station at Tang-e (?Sirjal) and stations Nos 1, 2 and 3 in Agha Jari and 4 and 5 in Ahvaz, and also the gas refinery in Bid Boland, are all working.

BUSHEHR CITIZENS REPORTEDLY READY TO FIGHT FOR ISLAM

GF220915 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1830 GMT 21 Aug 79 GF

[Text] Mr Ahmed Modarreszadeh, governor of Bushehr, early this morning attended the meeting held by the armed people of Abtavil region who had gathered at the governor's office in Bushehr to announce their readiness for self-sacrifice in achieving the lofty goals of Islam and crushing the counterrevolutionaries.

In the course of his speech, the governor of Bushehr, while thanking the people for their warm sentiments, said:

You, the informed people of Bushehr, have responded to the righteous call by Imam Khomeyni and have requested to be dispatched to Kordestan region.

The governor of Bushehr announced that now, by the will of God and roarings of the Iranian people, the enemy has retreated. He added: Your ancestors defended their territories by themselves. Now you are the defenders of both Islam and your territories, though religion does not recognize any boundaries. The governor of Bushehr reiterated that the informed people of Iran will crush all plots against the Islamic revolution. At the end of his statements, the governor of Bushehr said that in his contact with Imam Khomeyni he was told that because of a great distance from Kordestan and due to the necessity of guarding the coastal regions of the south, the fighters of this region should be used in this area.

KHORRAMSHAHR MAYOR CITES CITY HALL 'CHAOS' IN RESIGNING

LD221421 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 16 Aug 79 p 2 LD

[Text] Mas'ud Mashayekhi, mayor of Khorramshahr, has resigned his post.

Mashayekhi gave as his reason for resigning the existing chaos at city hall. Meanwhile, on the instructions of Commodore Madani, governor general of Khuzestan, Deputy Mayor Rahim Fazli has assumed control of city hall until such time as a new mayor is chosen.

NVOI SCORES ATTACKS ON PARTIES, CURTAILMENT OF PRESS

TA221957 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 21 Aug 79 TA

[Unattributed commentary: "Let Us Confront the Country's Events With a Sense of Responsibility"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Our liberated homeland is passing through a critical and crucial period. Any exercise of authority divorced from realism and farsightedness and on the basis of [word indistinct] democratic freedoms undoubtedly will have a high price for the Iranian nation's revolution and its gains. As we repeatedly said, the admirable revolution of the Iranian nation was an anti-despotic and anti-imperialist revolution.

In other words, it was a revolution for eradicating [words indistinct] despotism and for establishing liberty and freedom of conscience and eliminating all the elements that produce [words indistinct] one man rule on one hand and on the other hand liquidating all the bases of imperialist influence and primarily U.S. imperialism.

The admirable revolution of the Iranian nation began with this aim and purpose and ended triumphantly. All the national and progressive and religious groups and parties ackknowledge the fact that the Iranian revolution was [word indistinct] for the sake of establishing freedom and a government of justice. It was for the sake of this humane purpose of the revolution that tens of thousands sacrificed their lives and embraced martyrdom, building the foundation of the government of justice and [word indistinct] divorced from the influence of foreigners and imperialism is not possible without freedom in the full context of the word; freedom from the revolution's viewpoint and from the viewpoint of [words indistinct] the revolution.

We referred to this point once more so that the recent events of our homeland could be reviewed through a realistic appraisal based on the revolution's logic and not through the viewpoint of the lofty and passing interests of this or that monopolistic group or occasionally on the basis of revengeful and rash methods. During the last 2 or 3 days, attacks against the newspapers and forces of the left and progressive and national parties have greatly intensified in connection with the events in Kordestan. As we are aware, the national and progressive forces have repeatedly expressed their views regarding the Council of Ministers' and the revolutionary government's policy when dealing with the issue of the rights of ethnic minorities. The government's lack of success in resolving this acute problem or the immature and occasionally opportunist activities of some individuals or political groupings cannot negate either the principle issue of the rights of ethnic minorities nor can it be a means for attacks and unjust allegations against the national and progressive forces loyal to the revolution.

If, presumably, an article or an item was published in this or that newspaper and publication against the course of the Iranian nation's revolution, or if this or that political group in Khuzestan and Kordestan under the influence of various factors became an instrument for implementing the schemes of the counterrevolution, the solution to the problem is not [words indistinct] the national rights of minorities or treading on the indisputable principle of freedom of the press and [word indistinct] parties.

The deposed shah's regime and all despotic regimes, since they could not and cannot tolerate criticism or even an opinion contrary to the opinion of their agents, did not and do not allow any party to be active or anything to be published except for a number of papers advocating and approving the policy and measures of the ruling regime. This is the policy of despotic regimes, which when facing problems instead of searching for fundamental solutions and paying attention to the flaws and shortcomings of their work, transform the press into sheets for their glorification.

The Iranian nation's revolution took place so that freedom of the pen and beliefs, parties and associations would not be captive for the sake of this or that passing incident. Everybody is aware that during the reconstruction of our society the counterrevolution, with all its power and in collaboration and solidarity with the remnants of the former regime--unmasked and masked mercenaries of the espionage organizations of the U.S., Britain and Israel--is in the process of implementing a wide conspiracy against the gains of the Iranian nation's revolution.

Undoubtedly, in such circumstances a writer, newspaperman and journalist should be committed, committed to the revolution, to the Iranian nation and to the liberated homeland. The struggle against a noncommitted and occasionally a mercenary journalist or a newspaperman cannot and should not be a reason or grounds for breaking the pen of those who speak the truth or of silencing those who evaluate the country's incidents and events with a revolutionary criterion and through the viewpoint of the revolution's logic, but with a knowledge that is different from the knowledge of the ruling elements.

Any incident or event in the country should not be used as a means to attack and crush national and progressive parties and groups which possess political beliefs and thoughts different from the political beliefs of those running the affairs of the country. We repeatedly said, and today we again repeat this fact with a loud voice, that safeguarding the revolutionary gains of the Iranian nation and its healthy and [word indistinct] development. Safeguarding Iran and its independence and existence in the face of the danger of the conspiracies of imperialism and remnants of the former regime--who are in our country in great numbers--is not possible without unity of action and word of all the committed national, progressive and religious forces. One should be farsighted. Resorting to actions that widen the discord and division among the forces who believe in the revolution and its development not only does not benefit the Iranian nation, but even does not benefit those who today have the destiny of the country in their hands.

The enemies of the Iranian nation, from the military and civil remnants and governing organizations of the former shah to agents of the CIA, SAVAK and Mossad; from that capitalist plundering group to big landowners and feudalists, all dream of the arrival of the day when they will once more ride on the backs of the Iranian people. These elements should not be (?underestimated). One should not act irresponsibly in the face of the conspiracies of these dangerous enemies and wounded snakes. The freedom of the masses of the Iranian nation is the greatest gain of the admirable revolution of the Iranian nation. In this continuous struggle against remnants of the former regime and the agents of SAVAK and imperialism, one should deal through the framework of the law--not from revenge-seeking and monopolistic desires, but using persuasion and guidance when encountering uncommitted individuals and groups. We should not sacrifice freedom's honor for the sake of hasty and spur-of-the-moment decisions.

AFGHANISTAN

KARACHI RADIO CITES REPORT ON FIGHTING IN AFGHANISTAN

BK211750 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 21 Aug 79 BK

[Text] PPI [PAKISTAN PRESS INTERNATIONAL] says Afghan troops who are under seige for the last 5 months at (?Pirkot), Asmar and (Chiortiroi) are being reinforced by air. A good number of government troops have defected and joined the Afghan insurgents.

The agency also reports that the Afghan insurgents besieged government troops at (Darain) and (Jurm) in Badakhshan Province and inflicted heavy casualties on the troops at (Jurm). The troops are reported to be in precarious condition as the insurgents have disrupted their ground supplies from Kabul at some routes by cutting off the (Feyzabad-Kisan) road.

The agency adds that Mengal and Afghan insurgents have also besieged the government troops at (Jakimaidan) in Paktia Province and inflicted heavy losses on them. They also made a fresh attack on (Chombelic) where a brigade has been besieged. The troops are being replenished by air. It has been further reported that the insurgents killed 20 policemen and wounded 10 when they cut off a section of the main Kabul-Qandahar highway near (Derabagh) in Ghazni Province. They subsequently attacked (Derabagh) city and inflicted heavy casualties on the troops.

The agency says the Afghan insurgents are in control of most of the (?Konarha) Province and have set up Islamic courts in some areas.

PEOPLE DEMONSTRATE AGAINST IRAN AND PAKISTAN

GF200915 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 Aug 79 GF

[Text] Today thousands of our noble and patriotic people demonstrated their patriotic sentiments by shouting revolutionary slogans during the marches and meetings held to condemn and denounce the mean and treacherous acts of our people's enemies, the narrow-minded fanatics of Iran and the reactionary circles of Pakistan.

BAKHTAR correspondents report from the capital and provinces that in today's meetings, portraits of the great leader of Afghanistan, Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and president of the Revolutionary Council, and colorful national flags and banners could be seen everywhere, and a number of brave and patriotic people, intellectuals, ulema, workers, professors, students, peasants, members of the Committee on Defense of the Revolution and other toilers participated.

20 Aug Demonstrations

LD210140 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 20 Aug 79 LD

[Excerpt] The patriotic people of Afghanistan are united together every day for the defense of the national honor and for the defense of the invincible Sawr Revolution and its gains and taking frontline positions against the enemies of the people of Afghanistan.

In continuation of the convening of meetings and marches, grand marches and meetings were held today in a number of villages of the country in which the shameful and antihuman deeds of the Pakistani reactionary circles and the shortsighted fanatic leaders of Iran and other enemies of our country were strongly condemned.

During the meetings the speakers, on behalf of other patriots, expressed every kind of selflessness for the protection of the land and defense of the Great Sawr Revolution and its gain which guarantee the interests of the toiling people of Afghanistan. They also expressed readiness for the elimination of the various enemies of the people of Afghanistan, the enemies of the invincible Sawr Revolution and Pakistani militiamen, imperialist hirelings--that is, the servants and slaves of the shortsighted fanatic Iranian religious leaders, Ekhwani Shayatin, these Muslim-looking Farangis, and other reactionary circles.

According to BAKHTAR correspondents in the provinces, today's marches and meetings were held in the villages of the following provinces: Charikar cinema theatre; county of Parvan Province; (Shagli) primary school in (Khest) County; the villages of the center of (Kajaki) County of Helmand Province; primary school of (Farah) and (Koshin Abad), Shashan; and (Darg) and (Wadwin) of (Andara) County; (Shahazara) and (Balaru) of Baraqi County; Narin County of Baghlan Province.

21 Aug Demonstrations

GF212058 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 21 Aug 79 GF

[Excerpt] The brave people of Afghanistan have been inflicting mortal blows upon the trembling body of the region's reactionaries and international imperialism by affirming the declarations by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and condemning the actions of the enemies of the toiling people of Afghanistan, such as the narrowminded fanatics of Iran, the reactionary circles of Pakistan, and the servants of international imperialism, such as the devil's advocates and aristocrats.

Every day our brave and heroic people, by staging glorious demonstrations and organizing majestic meetings and marches, give warning to their enemies that the old days are gone when they could come to the toiling people of Afghanistan and suck our toilers blood. Through these marches and meetings our patriotic people have signed up and registered their names to defend the homeland's honor as a duty to the motherland and to confront all types of enemies and aggressors.

BAKHTAR correspondents report that during today's marches and meetings, thousands of our noble people, carrying portraits of the great leader of Afghanistan, Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and president of the Revolutionary Council, once again strongly condemned any type of aggression against our sacred land by the enemies of the toiling people of Afghanistan, and expressed their readiness to destroy all plots and intrigues on the part of these elements.

According to reports by BAKHTAR correspondents, these marches and meetings were organized in several regions.

FRIENDSHIP TREATY WITH USSR PUBLISHED IN OFFICIAL GAZETTE

LD210132 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 20 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The friendship, goodneighborly and cooperation agreement between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union has been published in the official gazette of 9 July 1979.

A spokesman of the Ministry of Justice, in a statement to a BAKHTAR correspondent, said that on the proposal of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the friendship, goodneighborly and cooperation agreement between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union was discussed and approved by the Council of Ministers of 17 March 1979 and it was ratified by the great and beloved leader of the people, Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and chairman of the Revolutionary Council. The friendship, goodneighborly and cooperation agreement between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, containing one preamble and 15 articles, was arranged in Moscow on 5 December 1978 and announced to the Government of Afghanistan through Decree No 2398 of 18 March 1979.

USSR TO PROVIDE TRANSMITTERS, RADIO COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

GF211856 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 21 Aug 79 GF

[Text] The USSR will provide Afghanistan with four radio transmitters and a radio communications unit. Documents for the above-mentioned assistance were signed and exchanged today at the Ministry of Information and Culture by Ali [last name indistinct], deputy minister of information and culture, and Anatoly (?Alexiyovich) economic attache of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul, in the presence of Khayal Mohammad Katawazi, minister of information and culture, and Aleksander Mikhaylovich, Soviet ambassador in Kabul.

According to this agreement, the USSR, through its pertinent institutions, will give to Afghanistan four 7-kilowatt [as heard] medium-wave radio transmitters and a radio communications unit with a 15-kilowatt capacity. The USSR will provide Afghanistan with the necessary assistance installing these units and carrying out future preventive maintenance.

TARAKI, WALI ATTEND CABINET MEETING 20 AUG

LD202345 Kabul English to Europe 1900 GMT 20 Aug 79 LD

[Summary] "Under the chairmanship of the great leader of the people of Afghanistan, Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the Council of Ministers met at 0930 this morning in the People's House." At the beginning Taraki gave a brief account of the internal and international situation, followed by Dr Shah Wali's report on his visit to Bulgaria.

"In discussing the subjects included in the agenda the Council of Ministers made decisions about the following items:

"On the proposal of the Ministry of Planning it was decided that the Ministry of Justice should express its legal opinion about the credit document of $20 million and $1.1 million of the Asian Bank for financing of the new project and the establishing of the ginning and press and oil-extracting plant of the Spinzar Company.

"At the request of the Ministry of Information and Culture the purchase of the required tapes and videotape recorders for the people's television of Afghanistan from the foreign firms was approved.

"Similarly the Council of Ministers in its today's meeting discussed the draft law of the special prosecution law of the (?AKSA), the Afghanistan Interest Security Office."

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES NEW APPOINTMENTS 21 AUG

GF212007 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 21 Aug 79 GF

[Text] With the recommendation of the Ministry of Interior, the approval of the Council of Ministers and the consent of the president of the Revolutionary Council, the following appointments have been announced: Abdul Ahad Ra'is--governor of Ghazni, 'Azizullah [last name indistinct]--governor of Qonduz, and Shamsuddin Shams--as governor of Faryab.

Further, with the recommendation of the concerned ministries, the approval of the Council of Ministers and the consent of the president of the Revolutionary Council, the following appointments have been made: Mohammad Yusef Shirdel--state comptroller for Balkh Province; Seyyed Baha'uddin Harakat--Afghanistan consul general in Bombay; Mohammad Salem--chief of international research, second division, at the Ministry of Information and Culture; Mohammad Ashaf Khorushan--assistant in the the Department of Government Monopolies, second division; and Mohammad 'Aziz Amaj--department chief for the Ministry of Education, second division.

KABUL CURFEW HOURS ANNOUNCED OVER RADIO AS REMINDER

GF212148 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 21 Aug 79 GF

[Text] Since the curfew hours begin at midnight, our esteemed citizens are expected to take the maritime law regulations into consideration and not leave their homes between midnight and 0330 hours.

SADRUD-DIN JAHANI EXPRESSES AFFINITY WITH AFGHAN REPUBLIC

GF180615 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 17 Aug 79 GF

[Text] Sadrud-din Jahani, of the vocational unions, expressed his affinity with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and his support of the (?independence) and defense of the fruits of the Great Sawr Revolution.

In the published declaration it is said that the Khalqi revolution of Afghanistan has eliminated tyranny and dictatorship in Afghanistan and will provide new possibilities for social progress and advancement for the Afghan people.

Sadrud-din Jahani, of the vocational unions, condemned the international plots and intrigues against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. It is stated in the declaration that China and the United States are assisting the reactionary elements, who are making futile efforts to oppose the popular revolution of Afghanistan.

KABUL TIMES EDITORIAL ON MOVE TO REDUCE FOREIGN DIPLOMATS

BK200315 Kabul TIMES in English 5 Aug 79 p 2 BK

[Editorial: "Mutual Proportional Representation"]

[Text] The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] is looking forward to solve the problems objectively on the basis of its active and positive nonaligned policy and free judgment on world issues. It has always regarded the interests of its people and other by passing free judgment on issues concerned.

In view of its good relations and friendly ties with friendly countries the DRA has proved its good intention to become a good example in this regard.

We will preserve our friendship with the friendly countries of the world to the extent that we receive no harm, whatsoever, from our friendship. And we will continue our friendship with the respected countries of the world as far as the friendship is without any string. And as a poor and backward nation we have been and are now in need of technical and economic assistances of the developed countries of the world. We have always said that the helps of the friendly countries are accepted if they are without any condition whatsoever.

While receiving assistance from the friendly countries of the world we naturally are in need of advisors and experts to operate the development projects or an organisation to utilize the assistance properly and purposefully. Thus we need the number of experts to be proportionate to the magnitude of technical and economic assistance given to us by the countries helping us.

It is obvious that we have always accepted such experts and personnel from the have-countries. We have received them with warm welcome and we have given them local hospitality to the extent that we could and kept our respect for them as they have been cooperating in solving and overcoming our difficulties and problems. We know that they are extending their cooperation mostly on humanitarian ground. Such personnel and experts have always been welcomed to our country and we will continue our great respect to them. Apart from this, of course, the doors of the DRA are cheerfully open to all foreign friends and visitors who would like to come to our country and see our beautiful land. As you are aware all facilities, at different levels, are provided for the people visiting our country. They will be most welcome and we will extend them all our hospitality.

However, it is rather hard to have people within the country without any clear aim or objective. This is the same in other countries of the world as well. It has been seen many times that when a person lives in a country without any objective the immigration office will warn him to clear his position or leave the country immediately.

In the case of some embassies here we have, first of all in view of diplomacy, felt an imbalance between the number of the members of our embassies in those countries and theirs in ours. Secondly, we have left the case to the respected countries if they can provide sufficient reasons for having more members in their embassies in Kabul compared with our embassy's members in their capitals. In that case, as our First Minister Hafizollah Amin said, "there is no need that the two numbers be fully proportional."

This move by the DRA by no way means that "any country which does not give aid should reduce its staff." This is not the case, because there are a number of countries extending enormous aid to us but the number of their staff is small, while it should have been more. No matter if they are extending help or not they can have as many staff as they like provided they have any reason for it. Without any reason it will "create suspicion that what they are doing in Afghanistan."

Thus our demand from some embassies to reduce the number of their members in Afghanistan is based totally on our good will and friendly relations with them. No other interpretation has room in this respect. Any time their existence felt necessary here, they are most welcome and there is no barrier against them and we would like others to have the same feeling.

TARAKI PARDONS PRISONERS TO MARK 'ID AL-FITR

GF221843 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 22 Aug 79 GF

[Text] The Secretariat of the Revolutionary Coun il reports that the great leader of the people of Afghanistan, Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the PDPA and president of the Revolutionary Council, in deference to the occasion of the auspicious 'Id al-Fitr holiday and owing to his lofty humanistic sentiments, has pardoned the remaining prison terms of 464 prisoners in the capital and provinces. This has been communicated to concerned offices through the Ministry of the Interior.

RELIGIOUS LEADERS EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR TARAKI

LD222240 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The ulemas, clergymen, preachers and imams of the mosques in various parts of the country, in yesterday's meetings, have confirmed the declaration of the general assembly of the Islamic ulemas of Afghanistan and have once again expressed their solidarity and full support with their Khalqi state.

According to BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY reports, in the meetings the ulemas, clergy, preachers and the imams, in their speeches, expressed their pleasure for the steps taken by our Khalqi government ever since the success of the deliverance of Sawr Revolution in the interests of the majority of the people of the country, in which social justice has been attained in the country. They have considered all the steps taken by the government as in conformity with the principles of the Islam religion and the Mohammad-i-Shari'at. They considered as compulsory the obeyance of the ruler of the Islamic society of Afghanistan, the great leader of the people, Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and chairman of the Revolutionary Council, on the basis of the holy (?verse), of the God, the Prophet and your ruler. The genius leader of the people, Nur Mohammad Taraki, enjoys the highest human merit and he is the protector of the holy religion of Islam. Ulemas, clergy and the imams condemned the hostile acts of the Pakistani reactionary circles and the fanatic shortsighted Iranian religious leaders' interference in our internal affairs. They consider as compulsory the killing of the enemies of the people of Afghanistan, that is Ekhwan ash-Shayatin, and their other hirelings who are performing inhuman deeds in our country, kill the innocent children and old people, burn the mosques and (?throw stones) in the way of lofty aims of the Great Sawr Revolution.

WHEAT PURCHASE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH USSR

LD212302 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 21 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The agreement for the purchase of 200,000 tons of wheat from the Soviet Union was signed today between the Wheat Procurement and Cooperative Department and the [word indistinct] representative of the Soviet Union. Under the terms of this agreement, of the total amount of 200,000 tons, some 75,000 will be imported to Afghanistan during the current year.

Protocol on Transmitter Deliveries

LD212306 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 21 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The Soviet Union delivers four communications transmitters and one receiver to Afghanistan in the form of grant in aid. The protocol for tne aid was signed today at the Ministry of Information and Culture and International Exchange.

According to the protocol, the Soviet Union will assist Afghanistan through its (Impremex) concern to deliver four new transmitters in the medium wave with the power of seven kilowatts each and one communication receiver, together with the required accessories and installations. It will also perform its future maintenance.

JAPAN PROVIDES GRANT FOR AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT

LD222234 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The Government of Japan, under its grant-in-aid economic program, is assisting Afghanistan with 800 million Japanese yen for the supply of equipment of agricultural expansion services. The exchange notes of this aid were signed today by Fateh Mohammad Karim, deputy minister of planning on behalf of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and His Excellency Toshikazu Maeda, the Japanese ambassador in Kabul on behalf of his country. The representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Agriculture were also present on the occasion.

WORLD PEACE COUNCIL PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN KABUL

GF221940 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 22 Aug 79 GF

[Text] [Name indistinct], president of the World Peace Council, arrived in Kabul this afternoon to participate in the international conference of (?solidarity) with the people of Afghanistan. He was met at Kabul International Airport by Khayal Mohammad Katawazi, minister of information and culture and president of the Afghanistan Peace and Affinity Organization, and some of its members and a representative from the Protocol Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Upon his arrival at Kabul International Airport, he expressed delight over the upcoming meeting of the international conference of (?solidarity) with the people of Afghanistan in Kabul, and said: The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, as a neutral and peace-loving nation, has played its role magnanimously through the victory of the Great Sawr Revolution and in the interest of the world masses. The role of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in the upcoming Havana conference in Cuba is a clear indication of this.

He added that the international conference of (?solidarity) with the people of Afghanistan, which is to be convened in Kabul on 24 August, not only will be fruitful for the people of Afghanistan, but will also be propitious for the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

More on Conference

LD222240 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD

[Text] In its solidarity with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the international conference of the World Peace Council is due to begin in Kabul on 24th August. The leading delegation from the peace and solidarity organization of Afghanistan met yesterday in order to discuss the arrangements and management of this international conference. Necessary decisions were made at the meeting about subjects concerned. Since the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has expressed its unsparing solidarity and support for the peace-loving countries of the world (?to enjoy) peace, it is not alone in its struggle for peace, democracy and social justice, but large numbers of peace-loving countries of the world have shown their solidarity in the struggles of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Thus, the participation of the Afghan delegation, the representatives of the majority of the countries of the world and the representatives of the international organiztions in this conference in Kabul show their solidarity with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

INDIA

PARTIES REACT TO DISSOLUTION OF LOK SABHA

BK221657 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Aug 79 BK

[Excerpts] Fresh elections to the Lok Sabha will be held in December following the dissolution of the House by the president today. The Council of Ministers headed by Mr Charan Singh will continue in the interim period. The prime minister and some of his Cabinet colleagues, who met the president before the decision was announced, have assured him that the government will not take new policy or major administrative decisions during this period. It will also not take any decision involving new expenditure of a significant order. However, work of urgent nature will not be held up.

A communique issued by the Rashtrapati Bhawan says: The prime minister has also assured the president that the elections will be peaceful, free and fair. The revision of the electoral rolls will begin immediately and will be completed by October. The election process will commence in November and will be completed by December. This will insure that reservation of seats for the schedule castes and the schedule tribes and representation for Anglo-Indians will continue.

The communique says that almost all the parties, except the Janata, demanded a fresh mandate. The president after considering all relevant aspects of the situation decided to dissolve the Lok Sabha.

Mr Chandra Shekhar and Mr Jagjivan Ram in a joint statement have alleged that the president's decision is meant to insure that elections are held with a straight apparatus in the hands of a person chosen by the president himself.

The Janata leaders said the president by his action preempted the submission of the Janata members list as soon as he learned that the Janata Party will be in a position to show a clear majority by this evening. They are of the view that if this decision is allowed to stand the country will have no safeguards against, what they called, presidential arbitrariness.

The Congress-I general secretary, Mr Buta Singh, said dissolution of the Lok Sabha was the only way out in the present crisis. However, his party has apprehensions that the weaker sections, particularly the harijans [untouchable class] and adhibasis [tribal people] will not be allowed to exercise their franchise by the elements representing the caretaker government. The president, he said, must insure that the weaker sections and the minorities are allowed to express their opinion without fear of hinderance.

The Congress-I leader, Mr C. Stephen, said Mr Charan Singh's government should not be allowed to remain as the caretaker government. The Janata-S-Congress coalition is clinging to power only to exploit the situation.

The Congress Working Committee in a statement has upheld the president's decision to dissolve the Lok Sabha and order fresh elections. Briefing newsmen after the CWC meeting, the Congress president, Mr Swaran Singh, said the Working Committee's view was that the president has safeguarded the sanctity of the constitution and upheld healthy conventions of democratic functioning. It has further saved parliamentary institutions from horse trading and unscrupulous manipulation.

The CPI-M [Communist Party of India--Marxist], the CPI and the Forward Bloc have welcomed the dissolution of the Lok Sabha and felt the midterm poll was the only way out in the present crisis.

Mr Madhu Dandvate, former railway minister, said the dissolution is the greatest betrayal in the country's history of parliamentary democracy. However, Mr Madhu Limaye, the Socialist leader who joined with the Janata-S, described Mr Sanjiva Reddy's action to be entirely correct.

Mr George Fernandes said the president has acted in the best traditions of parliamentary democracy and needs to be congratulated. Commenting on the reported move for impeachment of the president, he said this should be condemned.

The general secretary of the All India Moslem League, Mr (Hamid Ali Sabnab) , welcomed the dissolution of the Lok Sabha. The DMK [Dravida Munnetra Kazagham] president, Mr Karunanidhi, also expressed the same view and said the DMK executive will meet next week to discuss its own strategy.

The former prime minister, Mr Morarji Desai, described the president's action as unconstitutional and added: The dissolution was expected judging from the president's attitude right from the beginning of the present crisis.

Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee [former external affairs minister] said the president's action is both a challenge and an opportunity to all democratic forces in the country. But another prominent Janata leader, Mr Subramaniam Swamy, however, disagreed with the party President Mr Chandra Shekhar's call for the impeachment of the president. He said no motive should be attributed to the president.

Acharya Kriplani said the presidential action is not in accordance with public opinion.

COMMISSIONER CALLS FOR REVISION OF ELECTORAL ROLLS

BK221654 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Aug 79 BK

[Text] The chief election commissioner, Mr Sakhdhar, today issued instructions to the state governments to revise the electoral rolls. Mr Sakhdhar told the AIR [All India Radio] correspondent he is calling a meeting of all the chief electoral officers on the 27th of this month to discuss various matters concerning elections and finalize the poll arrangements. Preparations for the process of elections will start from the 1st of next month.

Mr Sakhdhar said that 35-day process will begin in November and elections will be completed in December. This is the first time that the Lok Sabha poll will be held in Winter. The chief election commissioner indicated that in certain snowbound constituencies, polling will have to be postponed to have it later.

The elections are to be held in 542 constituencies in 22 states and 9 union territories. He added all those persons, who became voters in January this year, will be included in the revised rolls. Along with the Lok Sabha polls, voters in Pondicherry, Goa, Manipur and Sikkim will also elect new assembly members.

Mr Sakhdhar said he is getting in touch with the Gujarat government to see that the election to the state assembly can also be held along with the Lok Sabha poll. The term of the Gujarat assembly is due to end by March next year.

Asked about the expenditure involved in the elections, he said it may come around 200 million rupees. In the last elections over 160 million rupees were spent.

The chief election commissioner said in the absence of any representation, election symbols will remain with the parties to which they were alloted during the 1977 general elections.

JANATA MEMBERS SEEK IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT

BK221333 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 22 Aug 79 BK

[Text] The Janata Party president, Mr Chandra Shekhar described the president's decision [to dissolve the Lok Sabha] as preplanned conspiracy. He said the president called for him and Mr Jagjivan Ram this morning and had discussions with them about the possibility of forming an alternative government.

After a meeting of the senior leaders of the Janata Party Mr Chandra Shekhar disclosed that the party has decided to make what it called an irrational and unjustified dissolution of the Lok Sabha as its main election issue in the midterm poll. The party has also decided that its members in Rajya Sabha will give a notice for the impeachement of the president.

Mr Jagjivan Ram said the president is trying to combine the functions of the Indian president and those of the American President. He said he is sure that the nation will not tolerate it.

Further Protest

BK221337 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 22 Aug 79 BK

[Text] Janata members of Parliament staged a march from Parliament House to go to Rashtrapati Bhavan [presidential residence] this afternoon to register their protest against the president's action in dissolving the Lok Sabha. They were not allowed to proceed beyond Vijaychowk by the police. The MPs raised slogans against the president's action.

Addressing the MPs, Mr Chandra Shekhar described the president's action as breach of trust.

COURT CASE AGAINST INDIRA GHANDHI DELAYED

BK230755 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 23 Aug 79 BK

[Text] In New Delhi, the special court of Mr Justice M.L. Jain, today issued notice to Mrs Indira Gandhi and two others on an application by the CBI [Central Bureau of Investigation] for condoning the delay in filing the Bhimsen Sachar [ex-Punjab chief minister] detention case. The case has been postponed to the 3d of next month.

Besides Mrs Gandhi her personal aide, Mr. R.K. Dhawan, and the deputy inspector general of Delhi police, Mr P.S. Binder, are accused of illegally detaining Mr Sachar and seven others in 1975. They were detained on 25 July 1975 for writing a letter to Mrs Gandhi 3 days earlier protesting against the promulgation of the emergency.

The CBI filed a charge sheet in the court of Mr Justice Jain yesterday as a followup of the Shah Commission report. The case had been registered by the CBI on the 10th of July last year.

NEPAL

PRIME MINISTER SAYS REFERENDUM MUST PROCEED AS PLANNED

BK171644 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 17 Aug 79 BK

[Excerpts] The prime minister, Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa, has remarked that to say that it is not necessary to hold the referendum and instead a multi-party system should be declared at once amounted not only to the relegation of the rights given to the people but also contempt for the people's rights. He said it was for the entire people to decide between the multi-party and the partyless system and not for a few chosen people.

Speaking as the chief guest at a function held at the Padmakanya campus this afternoon by the 17th new civil court [words indistinct], Mr Thapa said it has become the main duty of all sides to establish a peaceful atmosphere so that the people will be able to enjoy properly and without fear the right granted them by his majesty the king to express their personal will. He also expressed the confidence that his majesty's government will stress on holding the referendum in a fully impartial way.

Mr Thapa said his majesty's government has been extending necessary help to the National Election Committee in carrying out work related to the referendum.

It is surprising to talk about multi-party or the Panchayat Party without having even the patience to wait for the verdict of the people. This in a way was detrimental to the national referendum, Mr Thapa pointed out. He said such questions will rise only after the people give their verdict in favor of the multi-party system and as such it is illegal and even an expression of lack of faith on people to discuss these issues at a time when people have not yet exercised their rights.

Stressing once again on the fact that the people must play a decisive role on fundamental issues, Mr Thapa pointed out that no one has legal or moral authority to play with the rights of the people.

The prime minister said the verdict of the national referendum should be honored by all. Then only a permanent and strong democracy was possible.

Strongly refuting the argument that the sovereignty had shifted back to the people, he said the sovereignty lies on his majesty the king. It is customary for the people to exercise all these rights granted by the king and under these conditions it is unfair to create confusion regarding the source of sovereignty.

Mr Thapa urged that the sovereignty is not just simply because the people exercised their rights. He asked all to put before the people their respective ideas without creating any confusion and acculturate the people to utilize their rights.

PAKISTAN

HAQ DISCUSSES FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS, NUCLEAR PROGRAM

BK230204 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 22 Aug 79 BK

[Text] The president, Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has reiterated his pledge to hold elections and said we are actually holding two elections--one for local government institutions and the other for the national and provincial assemblies. He said this in an interview with the ARAB NEWS of Jiddah, details of which are now available. The president said we have to reach the grassroots first and hand over power at that level before going on to the general elections. He said these elections will be contested by individuals and not by parties. If the parties want to boycott them they are welcome to do so, the president added.

About the proportional representation, the president decried the propaganda against the system. He said under the proportional representation a party would get the majority it deserves on the basis of number of the voters it had gained.

Replying to a question about the constitutional role for the armed forces, the president said his proposal to this effect had been misunderstood. He wanted the armed forces to owe their allegiance to the head of state rather than to the chief executive and to safeguard democracy rather than to jeopardize it. He said the head of state could order the armed forces to hold elections in times of trouble [as heard]. The army should remain aloof from the mainstream of politics with (?firmness). He said the armed forces are the most stable and productive institutions of the country after the former prime minister, Mr Bhutto, had destroyed almost everything else.

Answering a question about the country's economy, the president said economically Pakistan is still not out of the woods. The position is precarious because of the past economic policies. Production has decreased and it has an enormous foreign debt burden. Last year's debt services installment amounted to $700 million. He said Pakistan needed help to revive its economy. Iran, the World Bank and the Islamic Development Bank had been the main sources of assistance. Pakistan, he added, is specially grateful to Saudi Arabia for its assistance in difficult times. Saudi Arabia has always responded to Pakistan's request for aid.

Referring to the American opposition to Pakistan's peaceful nuclear program, the president said it is unfair of the United States to discriminate against our country. He said even Pakistan's friends who want to help it are being pressured by the United States to curtail aid. The Aid to Pakistan consortium, which is under the aegis of the World Bank, is being persuaded to reduce its assistance.

Replying to a question, Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq said Pakistan did not wish to strike a kind of nuclear balance with India and China. He said they are good neighbors and that relations with India have improved since his coming to power in July 1977. He said Pakistan is not competing with anybody. The president pointed out that indeed it was Pakistan which proposed a nuclear-free zone in the area and offered to permit international supervision and safeguards of its nuclear program if others would do likewise.

DEFENSE MINISTER DISCUSSES POLITICAL SITUATION

BK230227 Karachi DAWN in English 14 Aug 79 pp 1, 7 BK

["Polls May Push State to Deeper Crisis--Talpur"--DAWN headline]

[Text] Defence Minister Mir Ali Ahmed Talpur said in Karachi yesterday that although the government was determined to hold elections on schedule, he was of the view that at this critical juncture the politicians would not be able to provide the much-needed internal stability or strengthen the defence of the country.

In an exclusive interview with PPI [PAKISTAN PRESS INTERNATIONAL] he said he had reached this conclusion after an assessment of the situation from close quarters.

Mr Talpur said he himself was a politician and had spent at least 40 years in the struggle for democracy and the rights of the people, but the present situation in Pakistan was characterised by a deepening crisis of leadership which requires careful handling.

He said his assessment was not conditioned by his being a minister in the federal cabinet or any other factor, but was the result of careful examination of the situation marked by political chaos and inter-party and intraparty divisions and wranglings.

Replying to a question, the defence minister vehemently denied that the present government wanted to perpetuate itself. He said he could say with certainty that the army was not interested in keeping itself at the helm of the administration and wanted to return to barracks as soon as possible.

However, Mr Talpur said, in the prevailing political chaos when there is no political leadership to command the confidence of the majority of people and when there are so many political parties and groups fighting with no-holds barred to gain some foothold the coming elections may not give the results desired by the people and may even push the country to a much deeper crisis.

The defence minister said the dismal political scenario warranted that country's leadership must be in strong hand so that we could maintain internal stability and ensure strong national defence.

In this connection, he recalled the situation in France in the years preceding the take-over by General de Gaulle. He said de Gaulle pulled France out of political chaos and economic stagnation and set the country on a new course of development. But then the elements who did not agree de Gaulle could always accuse that he was a military man.

Mr Talpur said France and Pakistan are two different countries with different economic and social situations, but the present crisis in Pakistan was quite deep and threatening, and required a national consensus and a united effort to overcome it.

He said he wondered what elections could give us in such a situation?

Mr Talpur also denied that as a result of a martial law government the external defences of the country had been weakened. He said in fact he was of the view that if politicians were given the reins of the government the defence potential of the country would suffer. The defence minister said he would go a step further and say with authority that in the present circumstances the political leadership could prove dangerous for the country.

Replying to a question, the defence minister said he believed that the local bodies elections will be held before the coming general elections.

Replying to another question, he maintained this suggestion of proportional representation was simply a proposal and all political parties were free to express their views on that point.

He said President Ziaul Haq himself had clearly stated in his communication to various political parties that he was making proposals. However, he said if there was consensus than no harm in adopting it. [sentence as published] He said the object was to ensure representation to all sections of society.

However, he said it was for legal experts to work out details if this system had to be adopted and therefore, it was premature to say anything on this issue.

Replying to a question, the defence minister disclosed that the printers of electoral lists in Sind Province had approached him in the form of a deputation for extending the time limit for printing electoral rolls by another 3 to 4 weeks and he would apprise the president of Pakistan about this situation.

He said the printing presses in Sind Province were given the electoral lists quite late, and therefore, they were not able to keep up to the schedule.

The defence minister who returned here after visiting Mirpur Khas, Tando Jam, Tando Kaiser, Chukki and Ghotana in Hyderabad District later left for Islamabad.

DAWN CRITICIZES U.S. OPPOSITION TO NUCLEAR PROGRAM

BK230255 Karachi DAWN in English 14 Aug 79 p 7 BK

[Editorial: "The Arrogance of Power"]

[Text] Reports in the American press that the U.S. administration is debating various options for halting Pakistan's nuclear programme should come as no surprise to this country. What, however, is alarming is that the possibility of "commando action" by the Americans to destroy Pakistan's nuclear facility is being publicly discussed. Ever since the United States first vociferously voiced its opposition to the Franco-Pakistani deal for nuclear reprocessing plant in 1976, Islamabad's entire nuclear programme has come under attack not from Washington alone but also from its other Western allies. Taking the lead from the United States, the major nuclear-technology exporting countries in the West have been proceeding from the assumption that Pakistan's nuclear programme is geared to the acquisition of nuclear weapon capability. Brushing aside Islamabad's oft-repeated assertion that nuclear technology in Pakistan is not to be used for exploding an atomic device but is being developed to meet its energy requirement, the United States has tried to invoke high-sounding principles of nuclear nonproliferation forgetting the blatantly discriminatory manner in which they are applied. Nuclear nonproliferation is severely threatened when a developing country like Pakistan seeks to develop a nuclear programme for peaceful purposes but highly sophisticated atomic technology in the hands of countries on the nuclear threshold militarily such as South Africa, Israel and India poses no threat to the principles of nonproliferation. Evidently, the West applies a double standard to nuclear programmes being carried out by countries outside the nuclear club. There are acceptable programmes and unacceptable programes depending wholly on political considerations.

Coming after an orchestrated campaign in the Western press, which even concocted the myth of an Islamic bomb in order to malign Pakistan's nuclear programme, the latest report by itself could have been dismissed as another volley in the attack. What makes it significant, however, are the implications of the options said to be under consideration by the Carter administration. Economic sanctions are nothing new, since the American government, taking the plea of being bound by the Symington Amendment, has already suspended aid twice. Other armtwisting measures have also been applied to get Pakistan to abandon its nuclear programme. Hence, any further pressures of this nature would not be quite unexpected. The offer of conventional arms to induce Pakistan to give up its alleged quest for an atom bomb is not of any great significance either. This option is said to have been tried before without success in connection with the reprocessing plant. It is the third option being considered that comes as an eye-opener. The suggestion to use a paramilitary strike force to disable the uranium enrichment facility in Pakistan is a sinister idea with very grave implications. The concept of a strike by a task force to achieve a limited objective is rash and dangerous. It smacks of the gunboat diplomacy practised by the colonial powers of yesteryears. A revival of that practice will be anachronistic in an international system which is supposed to condemn the use of force. It will also be risky since a widespread resort to such methods can destabilise international politics and touch off a military holocaust such as cannot be ruled out in the case of the Middle East--a priority area for which the United States is known to be making contingency plans of this nature. The consideration of such an option reeks of the arrogance of power. The United States is a superpower and in terms of Real Politik it might be regarded as capable of carrying out such an operation. It has the military and financial resources needed for its success. It might feel it also possesses the political and diplomatic influence to counteract the fallout of such an action. But nobody should forget that even a small country, if it is not lacking in national pride, has a duty to safeguard its rights and its sovereignty. Moreover, by now the Americans must have learnt from experience that military might does not always hold the key to political success.

BRIEFS

PAKISTAN-UAE JOINT VENTURES--Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will soon embark on a joint investment program under which heavy and medium industries will be set up in both countries. The Investment Promotion Bureau is reported to be preparing a list of industries to be undertaken as joint ventures. The final decision in this connection is expected within a month. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 20 Aug 79 BK]